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SOUTHEAST ASIA REPORT

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HAYDEN REPORTS ON ANZUS; OTHER DEFENSE ISSUES NOTED

Results of Review of Alliance

Sydney THE AUSTRALIAN in English 16 Sep 83 p 5

[Article by Jane Eyre]

[Text]

AUSTRALIA has reaffirmed its commitment to the ANZUS Alliance but at the same time declared a new independent approach to its own defence needs.

The Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr Hayden, yesterday revealed the outcome of the Federal Government's review of the treaty following consultations with the United States and New Zealand governments.

He also announced the operation of the highly secret joint defence facilities at North-West Cape, Pine Gap and Nurrungar would continue.

"ANZUS is not a paper tiger, but it is up to Australia first and foremost to look after itself," Mr Hayden told Parliament.

The review, instigated by the Federal Government, has centred on the relevance of the treaty, which was drawn up in 1952.

Mr Hayden said the Government's overall review had led it to a firm and unequivocal reaffirmation of the alliance as fundamental to Australia's national security.

"I do not say the treaty guarantees Australia's national safety and welfare, nor do I place us in that posture of happy dependence that has satisfied the foreign policy ambitions of many Australians in the past," he said.

"It was not the Govern-

ment's intention to revise or weaken the alliance.

"We were convinced that by stripping away the misconceptions and the unrealistic expectations which surround the treaty, we would strengthen it and bring it back to terms with reality."

In relation to the bi-lateral agreement on the defence bases, Mr Hayden said the Government believed their role as a deterrent to nuclear war fully justified any risks that might be seen from having them in Australia.

Mr Hayden repeated his claim that the achievement of a stable, harmonious and economically stable regional environment was more important to Australia's future than any defence treaties.

"While none of us would want to throw away a military shield . . . we must make every possible effort to create conditions which make the invoking of that military shield unnecessary," he said.

There was an erroneous notion that Australia was totally dependent on ANZUS and thus the US for its national security.

This implied an unquestioning, deferential relationship which would be unhealthy and a poor basis for effective defence planning.

Mr Hayden said the treaty required each partner to provide for its own security and the Government considered

the self-help aspect as fundamental.

"The treaty does not provide any automatic guarantee of military support in the event of attack or major threat," he said.

"We cannot assume military support from our treaty partners in every contingency.

"Therefore, it would not be prudent to base the development of our defence force structure on the assumption that our forces will necessarily be part of a superpower deployment in the event of any form of hostilities in which we are involved."

Debate in Parliament

Melbourne THE AGE in English 16 Sep 83 p 3

[Article by Ian Davis]

[Text]

CANBERRA. — Australia will put more emphasis on self-reliance in defence preparedness and strategic planning, following a review of the ANZUS treaty, the Foreign Minister, Mr Hayden, said yesterday.

As a step towards clarification of Australia's relationship with the United States, the Defence Minister, Mr Scholes, said yesterday he had reached agreement in principle with the US on new arrangements to inform Australia when the joint US base at North-West Cape is likely to be used when international tensions rose.

The move is to safeguard against incidents such as the time in 1973 when North-West Cape went to a "red alert" because of Middle East tension: Australia was not informed until the alert was ended.

However, Mr Scholes said the US was dragging its feet on Australia's proposal to reveal more details of the operations of the joint Australia-US bases at Pine Gap and Nurrungar.

Labor's ANZUS review was finished before Ministerial discussions involving Mr Hayden, the US Secretary of State, Mr Shultz and New Zealand's Foreign Minister, Mr Cooper, in Washington in July.

In a statement to Parliament yesterday, spelling out the role and scope of the ANZUS treaty as clarified since Labor came to

power, Mr Hayden said the US has accepted Australia's view that the ANZUS partners must place greater emphasis on self-reliance and recognise the limitations to the help which could be offered by the US under the treaty.

Mr Hayden strongly affirmed the importance of the ANZUS alliance.

Mr Hayden told Parliament: "ANZUS is not a paper tiger — but it is up to Australia first and foremost to look after itself.

"That is a sobering thought of which we should not lose sight. ANZUS is not an elaborate document authorising us to get our self-defence on the cheap."

Greater self-reliance under the umbrella of ANZUS, as outlined yesterday by Mr Hayden, would lead to a different type of defence force and equipment planning.

It would involve less integration with US forces, as has been the case in Australia's frigate acquisition program, and the purchase of an aircraft carrier as proposed by the Fraser Government.

"We cannot assume military support from our treaty partners in every contingency," Mr Hayden said.

"It would not be prudent to base the development of our defence force structure on the assumption that our forces will necessarily be part of a superpower deployment in the event of any form of hostilities in which we are involved."

He said agreement had been reached with the US that Australia

lia's defence role was "one of building our self-defence capability within our regional context, rather than as a presumed global role as some sort of appendix to a superpower."

The opposition spokesman on foreign affairs, Mr MacKellar, told Parliament the revision and clarification of ANZUS was unnecessary.

He said the roles and responsibilities of the treaty partners were already well understood. The review conducted by Mr Hayden had been designed for internal Labor Party consumption.

These are "Principles which this side of the House accept as common sense and pragmatic, but which have to be spelt out as fresh thought, to satisfy the discomfort the Government has in maintaining a commonsense approach when faced by the dissident views of the Victorian branch of its own party," Mr MacKellar said.

"The questionings and doubts in the Labor Party about ANZUS are to be put to rest, so the nation is treated to an exegesis in motherhood."

Mr MacKellar told Parliament the Liberal-National Party coalition "accepts the prudence in any proposition that we should not base ourselves on the assumption of allied assistance. Nevertheless, it is mandatory that our self-defence capability be developed on the premises that its structure and equipment can be readily compatible with our ANZUS partners."

Mr Scholes said that under the new arrangements covering North-West Cape, the US had agreed that if there was a change in the general state of alert or readiness which could affect US signals passing through Pine Gap, the chief Australian defence officer in Washington would be immediately informed.

Defense Brain Drain

Sydney THE AUSTRALIAN in English 19 Sep 83 p 3

[Text]

AUSTRALIA'S defence forces are facing a "brain drain", the Opposition spokesman on defence, Mr Ian Sinclair, said yesterday.

Mr Sinclair said reports of a 50 per cent increase in RAAF retirements since last month's federal Budget were alarming.

"The frightening retirement rate in the RAAF is sure to spread to the other services," he said.

"The Government must stop attacking conditions of service for defence personnel.

"The officers pulling out of the forces are specialists. Australia cannot afford a brain drain from the defence forces.

"The Government's decision to tax lump-sum superannuation at 30 per cent was a catalyst for people leaving the forces. It must reverse that decision."

The increased tax failed to take account of obligatory early retirement or the commutation formula of the Defence Forces Retirement and Death Benefits superannuation.

The other detrimental change to service conditions was the removal of tax exemption on reserve forces pay.

Senior Defence Department officials have alerted the Minister for Defence, Mr Scholes, to a sudden acceleration of officer resignations from the RAAF.

Although the department would not disclose figures, it is believed that resignations are 50 per cent above the pre-Budget level when the Government revealed its plan to tax lump-sum pension payments.

Subsequent proposals for an inquiry into the DFRDB scheme itself have also generated concern within the middle and higher ranks of the three services.

While the trend is already evident in the air force, particularly among those employed in specialist areas, a considerable number of RAN and Army officers are also reported to be considering early retirement.

Threat

Mr Scholes is aware of the potentially serious threat to the services posed by the lump-sum superannuation tax, and reassured servicemen last week that no changes would be made to taxation arrangements of the DFRDB scheme before the report of a

review of the scheme is completed.

This is not likely to be before the middle of next year, by which time the defence forces could lose key technical personnel who, because of the long training lead times involved, may take up to four years to replace.

Meanwhile, most officers must still retire much earlier than the rest of the community, and certainly before the cut-off age of 55 when the superannuation tax is halved from 30 to 15 per cent.

A defence official said the crunch would come when individual officers reached the end of their current service contracts and faced the decision of whether to sign on for another six years.

The Labor Party's ACT branch last Thursday expressed concern at what it saw as anomalies created for servicemen in the new superannuation taxation legislation, and decided to ask the

Government to ensure that defence personnel were not discriminated against in the final form of the law on lump-sum payments.

The branch pointed out that service regulations prevented defence personnel from engaging in the "double dipping" on pensions which the legislation was designed to stamp out.

Another area of grave concern to senior defence force officers is the Budget decision to end tax exemption for defence reservists' pay.

Mr Scholes has tried to counter rising criticism of this move by announcing that the pay would be increased substantially to cover the tax impost, but the officers say the Government is missing the point.

"The tax-free thing is a status symbol and a mark of public regard for the reservist as a bit special in the community," said one officer last week.

Guided-Missile Frigates

Brisbane THE COURIER-MAIL in English 21 Sep 83 p 17

[Text]

CANBERRA.— The Navy has bowed to Defence Department pressure to have Australia's next two guided-missile frigates built at Melbourne's Williamstown naval dockyard.

The first step towards committing the two warships is expected to come in about three weeks, according to a spokesman for the Defence Minister, Mr Scholes.

The ships, based on the US-designed FFG7-class HMAS Darwin taking shape in a Seattle shipyard, could cost up to \$600 million each.

The contract will give a new lease of life to Williamstown which has been plagued by a history of industrial disputes.

The Royal Australian Navy re-

quirement is for eight new ships within the next 17 years to replace vessels which have to be retired.

There are also Government moves to order preliminary design studies on a new all-purpose Australian frigate to be built after the first two ships are delivered.

The new design is believed to be for a 2500-tonne ship closely resembling the Australian-designed DDL program abandoned in 1974.

Australia's shipbuilders were criticised recently in the Auditor-General's report which listed long delays and escalating costs of the fleet support ship HMAS Success, being built in a Sydney dockyard.

The Success was to have cost about \$70 million but this has soared to a nominal ceiling price of \$193 million.

Malaysia Base Negotiations

Perth THE WEST AUSTRALIAN in English 22 Sep 83 p 4

[Text]

KUALA LUMPUR. West: Australian and Malaysian defence officials will meet next year to discuss the continued stationing of a squadron of the RAAF Mirage jet squadron at Butterworth in northern Malaysia.

The decision was made in talks between the visiting Australian chief of the defence forces, Air Chief Marshal Sir Neville McNamara, and the Malaysian Deputy Defence Minister, Mr Abang Abu Bakar.

A Malaysian Defence Ministry spokesman said after today's one-hour talks that there was no indication that Australia wanted to pull out its second Mirage squadron from Butterworth.

The Australian Defence Minister, Mr Scholes, said last month that Australia was reviewing the future of the second squadron in the Butterworth base.

Australia had stationed two of its Mirage jet squadrons in Malaysia for 25 years, but one of them, the 75th Squadron of 14 jets, was pulled out last month after the defence review by the Australian Government.

CSO: 4200/6007

LIBYAN DELEGATION LEADER ADMITTED, MEETS WITH PRESS

Immigration, ASIO Positions

Perth THE WEST AUSTRALIAN in English 15 Sep 83 p 42

[Text]

CANBERRA: The Immigration Department and the Australian Security Intelligence Organisation had given no reasons why the leader of a Libyan delegation should be refused entry to Australia, the Immigration and Ethnic Affairs Minister, Mr West, said yesterday.

"The department hadn't put any reason to me, nor had ASIO, why he should be kept out of Australia," he told Parliament.

Mr West was replying to a series of questions from Mr Michael MacKellar, (Lib. NSW) about a report in the Bulletin magazine that a delegation headed by Mr Ahmed Shuhati was visiting the country.

Mr MacKellar asked if Mr Shuhati was formerly director of the Libyan Foreign Liaison Office. He said the office was a key element in Libya's in-

telligence network, which had a particularly violent record and had conducted terrorist operations.

Mr MacKellar also asked if Mr West had personally approved the entry of Mr Shuhati and his delegation and whether he or any of his Ministers had met him.

Mr West said the Government's policy was that people should not be refused entry on political grounds if there was no perceived threat of terrorism, a threat to Australian security or public disorder.

"It is true that there are, I think, 11 members of a Libyan delegation in Australia," he said.

"I have consulted the Department of Immigration. To the best of my knowledge there has been no objection put to me why they should not be allowed in Australia."

Shuhati Press Conference

Melbourne THE AGE in English 20 Sep 83 p 10

[Article by Margaret Simons]

[Text]

The leader of a visiting delegation of Libyans, Mr Ahmed Shuhati, denied yesterday that he was involved in Libyan intelligence and

that he was related to the Libyan dictator, Colonel Gaddafi.

At a Press conference at the Regent Hotel, he said: "I know noth-

ing about intelligence, and I am not related to Colonel Gaddafi. But of course, all Libyans have very good relations with Colonel Gaddafi because he is a man of integrity."

Shuhati was referring to a report in last week's 'Bulletin' which said he was a key figure in Libya's intelligence network and in 1988 had been involved in the suborning of Billy Carter, brother of the then US President.

Mr Shuhati's present title is secretary of the International Centre for Studies and Research on the Green Book (Colonel Gaddafi's equivalent of Mao's Little Red Book). He is leading a delegation of 11 Libyan academics, doctors and students on a tour organised by the Arab Libyan Australian Friendship Association.

Sitting in front of a large mass of the Middle East, Mr Shuhati gave journalists a brief history lesson, then made a long speech about Libya's "new socialism" which he said was based on a system of people's congresses and committees.

Mr Shuhati occasionally handed over to a youthful official who translated questions and made more long speeches on the "new socialism". The other delegates, including one woman doctor, sat silent.

Mr Shuhati said the principles embodied in Colonel Gaddafi's Green Book had made the Libyan people "lords of their own destiny".

He said there were no workers in Libya any more. Instead, they were called "producers". They were not paid wages but shared in the profits of production. "If production rises they are rewarded and if it falls, they take responsibility for that," he said.

Libya has been accused of military interference in Chad's civil war. In answer to questions, Mr Shuhati said Libya blamed Chad's problems on interference from France and the United States.

He said Libya wanted the Chadian people to enjoy the same national independence and freedom that Libyans enjoyed. He said there were thousands of Chadians in Libya, and thousands of Libyans in Chad.

Asked whether any of the Libyans in Chad were soldiers, he said: "No, they are civilians, the same as the Australians in Libya are civilians. They are not soldiers."

Mr Shuhati pointed questions on Afghanistan and denied that Libya supported terrorists. He emphasised that "I am not a Foreign Minister or an expert. This is not a political delegation."

Few Libyans live in Australia but cultural delegations are frequent. There is a Libyan People's Centre in Melbourne and the friendship association runs regular programs on the community radio station 3CR. Representatives from 3CR tape-recorded the Press conference.

MURUROA N-TESTS TO BE VIEWED IF FRENCH MEET CONDITIONS

Sydney THE AUSTRALIAN in English 19 Sep 83 p 3

[Text]

THE Federal Government has decided to accept the French Government's offer to inspect the French nuclear test site at Mururoa Atoll in the South Pacific provided satisfactory agreement can be reached on the detailed arrangements.

The Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr Hayden, said in a statement the agreement would have to include procedures and access provided in relation to sample-taking and inspection requirements.

Although it was important to emphasise environmental inspection of Mururoa Atoll was an important consideration, it did not meet Australia's concerns about nuclear testing, Mr Hayden said.

Warning

These were firmly based on Australia's opposition to the nuclear arms race, its concern about international tension and the instability that the arms race generated.

"The Government's view remains that while the environmental, safety and other aspects of nuclear testing are important, the Government's dominant concern is that nuclear testing should not take place by any State in any environment," Mr Hayden said.

He warned that not much should be expected from an inspection of three to four days' duration.

Such an inspection would, however, provide an occasion

for an on-the-spot examination which was not previously available.

"Not to accept the invitation could be misunderstood as unwillingness, even seen as evidence of uncertainty and evasiveness on the part of the Government regarding an important public concern, but not the dominant one, arising from French nuclear testing in the South Pacific," Mr Hayden said.

The French offer to allow an Australian scientist to inspect Mururoa Atoll was made by President Mitterrand's special envoy, Mr Regis Debray, who called on the Federal Government in June.

His visit followed the Prime Minister, Mr Hawke's decision while visiting Paris to suspend all uranium shipments to France until at least October 1984 as a protest.

Mr Hayden's statement gave no indication of when the inspection might take place. But he said the results of Australia's inspection would be made public.

The Australian Government had earlier considered the matter of whether to accept the French invitation and had decided to accept provided the inspection was endorsed by the recent South Pacific Forum.

Although no decision on endorsement was made by the forum countries, Mr Hayden said the majority of participants favored accepting the invitation, although they themselves did not have the necessary expertise to take part directly.

ENERGY, URANIUM EXPORT HOPES CALLED OVERLY OPTIMISTIC

Sydney THE AUSTRALIAN in English 15 Sep 83 p 12

[Text]

EXPECTATIONS of a massive increase in Australian exports of coal, gas and uranium over the next decade or two must now be considered "excessively optimistic" according to the National Energy Advisory Committee.

And because of the changed demand outlook there appeared to have been over-investment in capacity in some sectors, notably the coal industry, it said.

The situation had not been improved by some State governments charging excessively for services, or by pressure for increased wages and the incidence of industrial disputes in the production and transport sectors, which had affected competitiveness.

The committee's final report, *Trade in Energy*, which identifies the opportunities for Australia as an energy exporter, was issued in Canberra by the Minister for Resources and Energy, Senator Walsh.

The committee recommended that the Federal Government should advance consideration of the possible introduction of a resource rent tax and should urgently clarify its uranium policy, expected to go before Cabinet within the next two weeks.

It said the Government should foster greater appreciation of the importance of wage restraint within the coal industry and encourage amalgamation of relevant unions.

It also urged the Govern-

ment to ensure a more effective approach by coal producers in price negotiations.

The report said earlier energy export projections, made as recently as two years ago, were no longer valid because of slack world economic conditions and the softer trend in world oil prices.

But it cautioned against becoming too gloomy and taking the immediate past period as a basis for projecting the longer term.

There still would be considerable export opportunities for Australian energy resources in the 1980s and the 1990s.

But whether Australia took full advantage of those opportunities would depend vitally on the competitiveness of Australian exporters and their marketing skills.

Uranium

In the committee's view the vital lesson of the past was that there must be no pre-empting of the benefits of resource development by particular groups before earnings to pay those benefits were achieved.

Employees, employers and governments needed to agree on policies which resulted in an acceptable sharing of the benefits.

The report noted that energy exports were projected, by the end of the decade, to be up to six times as high in energy terms as in 1979-80 and, in value terms in present day prices, almost four times as high.

Even at the lower end of the range of aggregate projections, energy exports were expected to more than double in

energy terms by the end of the decade.

Continued growth in the energy export sector was predicted throughout the 1990s, with a further three-fold increase in energy terms.

Projections made from the 1979-81 period indicated that by the end of the 1990s coal exports could reach 180 million tonnes, uranium oxide exports could be 14,000 tonnes and liquid natural gas exports of six million tonnes.

The International Energy Agency's latest projection for Australian coal exports to all countries by 1990 was 112 million tonnes.

There also had been a strong reduction in recent months in Japanese estimates of their future requirements.

On the basis that Australia was able to maintain slightly less than half of the Japanese market for coal imports, it could be exporting about 40-45 million tonnes to Japan by 1990.

The IEA also estimated that natural gas production in Australia in 1990 would be 29,000 million cu m and that about a third of this would be exported.

The figure projected for exports by the Department of Resources and Energy for 1991-92 is 8700 million cu m.

Japan's Ministry of Interna-

tional Trade (MITI) forecasts for Japanese LNG requirements in 1990 have been reduced from 45 million to 43 million tonnes but even this level is considered too high by some forecasters.

The committee recommended that the Federal Government be prepared to consider possible approaches from participants in the North West Shelf LNG project aimed at maintaining the project's place in the "queue of planned LNG projects to supply the Japanese market".

Referring to uranium, the report said that on present trends it appeared world demand would begin growing again towards the end of the 1980s.

Production of uranium was not expected to fall below projected reactor consumption levels until about 1985 and utilities also needed to use up their excess stocks.

On the expectation of increasing market requirements by 1990, utilities could be expected to seek major contracts beginning around 1986-87.

The committee recommended that the Federal Government urgently clarify its policies on the extent to which uranium mining development and processing in Australia is to be permitted.

HIGH-TECH INDUSTRIES TO GET FEDERAL TAX CONCESSIONS

Melbourne THE AGE in English 15 Sep 83 p 1

[Article by Ian Davis]

[Text] **CANBERRA.** — The Federal Government yesterday announced tax concessions and other measures to encourage new industries using advanced technology.

The government will allow a total tax write-off of investment in 10 specified new-technology industries.

The write-offs will be restricted to a maximum of \$20 million in the first year of operation.

Companies investing in new technology will have to compete for licences entitling them to claim the tax deductions. Selection of the companies will be made by a new body to be established by the Government: the Management and Investment Licensing Board.

The concessions were announced yesterday by the Minister for Industry and Commerce, Senator Button, and the Minister for Science and Technology, Mr Jones, against a background of tension in the Government over just how significant the benefits

from high technology industries will be for Australia.

Making the announcement, Senator Button referred to reports of tension within the government but said it was "all of a creative kind".

There was apparent tension yesterday between Senator Button and Mr Jones over their respective responsibilities for the program, over who should announce the new measures and over the extent and immediacy of benefits from the new industries.

Senator Button is believed to be anxious that the Government does not create unrealistic expectations about high-technology industries.

During yesterday's announcement he said "high-technology industries are not a substitute for existing industries but should be seen as an add-on".

Mr Jones, who has earned himself a reputation as a campaigner for high-technology industries acknowledged "they are not large employers — never said they would be".

He added: "But they are changing the balance of trade very dramatically. I think that they will

make an enormous contribution to the health of the economy generally."

Mr Jones said that at first jobs created directly would number "in the thousands" and later "in the tens of thousands". But he said that, as with the mining industry, the importance of high-technology industries was the employment they created in other industries.

The measures announced yesterday closely follow the recommendations of the Esple inquiry into high-technology industries commissioned by the Fraser Government.

However, the Esple inquiry recommended that after the first year tax concessions should be equivalent to \$200 million over five years.

Mr Jones said he was satisfied with the concessions the Government has already agreed to.

Senator Button said legislation would not be introduced to Parliament until early next year, by which time the Government is likely to have further refined the guidelines.

CSO: 4200/6008

PREDICTION FOR 1983-84 WHEAT CROP REVISED UPWARD

Perth THE WEST AUSTRALIAN in English 20 Sep 83 p 20

[Text]

SYDNEY: The Australian Wheat Board has revised its 1983-84 wheat-crop estimate to between 18 and 19 million tonnes, up from its August prediction of 16 to 18 million tonnes.

The board said that WA could harvest five million tonnes, with most areas requiring dry conditions to ensure maximum production after heavy rain in the three weeks to September 7.

Good falls would be needed later in the season as the crop was about one month behind normal development.

It said in a statement that favourable seasonal conditions had persisted throughout much of the wheatbelt since August although heavy rain and flooding had affected some areas.

Most States, however, required warm, dry

conditions to allow crops to reach their full potential.

The board chairman, Sir Leslie Price, said that the extended planting time this season would mean a longer than normal growing and harvest period, which meant that the crop was at greater risk of insect, disease or weather damage.

NSW is expected to get close to the 1978-79 record of 6.6 million tonnes.

It was too early to assess damage from recent heavy flooding in some prime Victorian areas, the board said.

The South Australian crop was in excellent condition and the western area of the wheatbelt, which normally produced about 40 per cent of the State's crop, appeared set to have a record harvest, it said.

CSO: 4200/6009

ACTU CONGRESS ENDS; FACTIONS DEMONSTRATE ACCOMMODATION

Sydney THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD in English 17 Sep 83 p 2

[Article by Keith Martin]

[Text] MELBOURNE--The prices and incomes accord with the Labor Government is still intact: that was the main message coming out of the biennial congress of the ACTU, which ended here yesterday.

Compared with some in the past, it was a quiet congress, remarkable more for the degree of co-operation between Right, Left and Centre than for fiery debating.

The congress headed the call of the Prime Minister, Mr Hawke, at the opening session on Monday to stick to the accord and, in particular, not to press claims outside the central wage-fixing system.

But, given the present high unemployment and the impossibility of extracting much more money from many sectors of industry, the congress may well have decided on this even without the Prime Minister's appeal.

The hopes of the unions now rest with the Arbitration Commission, with a warning that if it does not award full indexation of 4.3 per cent for the first half of this year, there will be trouble.

The last time a Labor Prime Minister addressed an ACTU Congress was eight years ago and Mr Hawke's reception on Monday was far more enthusiastic than that given to Mr Whitlam in September, 1975.

In 1975, unemployment had begun to bite and the unions, which had enjoyed a wages bonanza the previous year, were reluctantly locked into wage indexation by the Labor Government.

Mr Whitlam's visit to the congress in 1975 was an occasion for restrained applause, with an undercurrent of hostility.

This time, Mr Hawke received a standing ovation which, if not ecstatic, at least indicated a "give him a go" attitude by the unions to their former chief.

Certainly, the congress strengthened its original wages proposal to set a deadline and to threaten industrial action.

On the other hand, the congress was remarkable for the way in which members of the executive, and even the left wing, attacked the small Food Preservers' Union for breaching the accord by extracting a pay rise from the giant H. J. Heinz company.

At past congresses, the union would have been applauded for its breakthrough; the difference this year only served to emphasise the trade union movement's continuing faith in the prices and incomes accord.

The ACTU secretary, Mr Bill Kelty, made a telling point when he argued that if their wage indexation hopes were realised, Australian workers would probably be the only ones in the world who could look forward to a pay rise averaging \$28 a week over the next seven months.

Officiating at this first congress as ACTU secretary, Mr Kelty enhanced his standing both as a public speaker and as an organiser.

The congress was also a remarkable swan song for the retiring ACTU vice-president, Mr Charlie Fitzgibbon, who successfully piloted through the two most difficult matters--superannuation and wages.

For the first time in many years, the Left, Right and Centre were not at each other's throats; the three factions even reached a gentleman's agreement on the filling of the vice-presidencies.

This left the main interest centred on the industry groups, and in particular the building industry group, where the durable Mr Norm Gallagher, Federal secretary of the Builders Labourers' Federation, beat off by one vote a challenge from Mr Tom MacDonald, assistant national secretary of the Building Workers' Industrial Union.

Mr MacDonald, who is leading the building industry negotiations and who commands wide respect in the union movement, was tipped to win the seat.

--Before it ended, the congress called on the Federal Government to honour its previous assurances that there would be no attacks on penalty rates.

Speeches from delegates representing such diverse groups as shop assistants, the tourist industry, clothing, building and power workers all condemned current moves by employer groups to limit or abolish penalty rates.

CSO: 4200/6008

PROGRESS REPORT ISSUED ON DAMPIER ARCHIPELAGO STUDY

Perth THE WEST AUSTRALIAN in English 22 Sep 83 News of the North p 4

[Text]

A PROGRESS report has been released on a major study of the Dampier archipelago, being conducted by the Department of Conservation and Environment.

Pilbara MLA Mrs Pam Buchanan said the early research work, which was being headed by marine biologist Dr Graham Chittleborough, was recognised by the Government as vital to the future good management of the area.

The Cockburn Sound and Peel-Harvey Inlet studies were initiated in response to problems which had already occurred.

In both cases there was insufficient background information about the function of the ecosystem before the impact of man-

made changes, Mrs Buchanan said.

She said it was therefore important that studies be undertaken now to ensure the environment could be safeguarded as it came under increasing pressure from industry and human uses of the marine resources in the area.

Research facilities had been established for the purpose of the study in the old Dampier hospital building and included living quarters and a well-equipped laboratory.

The Dampier field station was the only one between Geraldton and Darwin, and had attracted scientists from many institutions, Mrs Buchanan said.

Copies of the progress report were available from the Department of Conservation.

CSO: 4200/6009

NEW CODE OF CONDUCT FOR LOBBYISTS RECOMMENDED

Sydney THE AUSTRALIAN in English 14 Sep 83 p 1

[Article by Ian Perkin]

[Text]

ANY federal lobbyist persisting with a relationship that could threaten national security or the national interest would face deregistration under proposals being put forward for registration of the profession.

This is a major recommendation in a discussion paper prepared by the Government and tabled in Parliament yesterday by the Special Minister of State, Mr Beazley.

The decision of the Government to examine the possibility of registration of the growing number of lobbyists in Canberra follows disclosures concerning the Combe-Ivanov affair now being investigated by the Home Affairs Commission into FIO.

The Government is seeking comment on the discussion paper before deciding whether to proceed with a system of formal registration or to leave the industry to self-regulation by its members.

The paper issued yesterday outlines two views of the lobby industry: one describes it as a "parasitical growth on the business of government"; the other as a "legitimate and necessary channel of communication between executive government and the community".

It goes on: "Whichever position one adopts, the reality is that some people do not have the time, the knowledge or the desire to handle their approaches to government personally and prefer to seek 'pro-

fessional assistance

"For as long as this demand exists some people will be prepared to sell their services to meet it."

The major proposal of the paper is that a system of registration be introduced with these attributes:

INDIVIDUALS and firms whose main profession is lobbying should be required to register.

REPRESENTATIVE organisations such as the CAI and the ACTU, whose interests are publicly known, and business firms which from time to time make representations to government as part of their usual activities should not have to register.

THE register should contain the names of clients as well as those of the lobbyists themselves.

IT SHOULD be updated regularly and lobbyists indicate any changes of clients within 14 days.

THE register should be maintained by the secretary of the Department of the Special Minister of State.

IT SHOULD be published in the annual report of the Department of the Special Minister of State and be made publicly available on request.

THE register should indicate clearly whether a client is a foreign government or agency.

NAMES of lobbyists should only be entered in the register if they agreed to abide by a specified code of conduct.

BRIEFS

WILDERNESS PROGRAM--SYDNEY--Conservation organisations in Australia have decided to plan a national wilderness conservation strategy aimed at avoiding confrontations such as the Franklin Dam dispute. The bodies have agreed to form an umbrella organisation as soon as possible to draw up a national register of wilderness areas, pressure government for legislative action and funding and conduct a public education campaign on the values of wilderness. Strategies were developed at a weekend meeting in Katoomba, west of Sydney, convened by the Australian Conservation Foundation. The conference was attended by more than 100 delegates from organisations such as the Wilderness Society, Milo Dumphy's Total Environment Centre and parks and wild-life services. A feature of the plan calls for the freezing of all development in wilderness areas placed on an interim list until a full investigation of the areas has been completed. If they are accepted for permanent wilderness status, responsibility for their protection would rest with the Commonwealth. The meeting passed a resolution for the setting up of a national wilderness strategy committee to develop the plan. [Brisbane THE COURIER-MAIL in English 19 Sep 83 p 11]

CSO: 4200/6009

CLANDESTINE RADIOS REPORT BATTLE STATISTICS

September Western Region Statistics

BK210123 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT
20 Oct 83

[Text] In September, our comrades-in-arms on the western region battlefield killed two Vietnamese enemy soldiers and wounded three others for a total of five casualties. In the field of primitive weapons production, our comrades-in-arms made and planted 140,000 punji stakes and dug 170 punji pitfalls.

Long live our valiant and courageous national army, guerrillas, and people on the western region battlefield!

Reinforcements, Tanks From SRV

BK250135 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2300 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Text] On 2 October, the Vietnamese sent 7 truckloads of reinforcement soldiers and 13 tanks to Leach battlefield in Pursat Province.

300 Reinforcements From SRV

BK250134 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2300 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Text] On 13 September, the Vietnamese enemy sent 300 reinforcement soldiers from Vietnam to be stationed in Tuol Skor and Vat Run villages, Mounng battlefield.

CSO: 4212/9

REPORT ON AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENTS 17-23 OCTOBER

BK240739 [Editorial Report] Kampuchean media monitored by Bangkok Bureau have reported the following agricultural developments during the reporting period 17-23 October.

National level: Phnom Penh SPK in French at 0402 GMT on 20 October reports that this year Kampuchean fishermen caught 63,750 metric tons of fish including 5,100 metric tons of sea fish. For the period 1983-84, the Agriculture Ministry plans a catch of 68,570 metric tons of freshwater fish, 4,900 metric tons of sea fish, and 530 metric tons of pond-raised fish.

Prey Veng Province: Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian at 0430 GMT on 17 October reports that from the beginning of the rainy season to the beginning of September peasants in Peareang District broadcast and transplanted over 6,800 hectares of all types of rice.

Kompong Cham Province: Phnom Penh Radio at 0430 GMT on 18 October reports that since the beginning of 1983 workers at the Thmar Pich rubber plantation have produced 1,123,489 liters of latex. In 1982 a total of 1,064,717 liters of latex was produced. At 0430 GMT on 18 October the radio says that in September the trade service in Tbong Khmum District bought more than 67 metric tons of red corn, peanuts, white sesame, and rice seeds from the people. At 0430 GMT on 19 October the radio reports that from the beginning of the rainy season to 27 September peasants in Cheung Prey District had planted 23,233 hectares of rainy-season rice or 97 percent of the plan. The radio at 1300 GMT on 22 October notes that by the end of September, 6,200 hectares of rice had been transplanted, over 11,000 hectares of subsidiary crops planted, and more than 500 hectares of land reclaimed in Chamka Leu District.

Battambang Province: Phnom Penh Radio at 0430 GMT on 18 October reports that from the beginning of the rainy season to the beginning of October peasants in Thmar Puok District transplanted over 19,000 hectares of all types of rice.

Kompong Thom Province: At 1300 GMT on 18 October the radio reports that from the beginning of the rainy season to the beginning of September peasants in the province transplanted over 89,600 hectares of all types of rice and planted more than 5,000 hectares of various subsidiary crops and over 600 hectares of industrial crops. At 1300 GMT on 23 October the radio reports that by mid-September, over 26,500 hectares of rice or 86 percent of the plan were planted in Kompong Svay District.

Svay Rieng Province: Phnom Penh Radio at 1300 GMT on 18 October reports that from the beginning of the rainy season to 4 October peasants in Svay Rieng District transplanted more than 28,000 hectares of all types of rice.

Kandal Province: Phnom Penh Radio at 0430 GMT on 22 October says that peasants in the province plan to grow 35,000 hectares of dry-season rice.

Kompong Chhnang Province: The radio at 0430 GMT on 23 October notes that during this year's rainy season, peasants in Kompong Chhnang Provincial s. + broadcast and transplanted more than 800 hectares of all types of rice, an ,planted over 100 hectares of subsidiary crops.

CSO: 4212/9

BRIEFS

OFFICIALS AT UN--On 12 and 13 October, Khieu Samphan, vice president of Democratic Kampuchea in charge of foreign affairs, who is currently attending the 38th session of the UN General Assembly, met and held talks successively with Ahmed Ould Minnih, foreign minister of Mauritania; and (M. Sipey), member of parliament and head of Swaziland's delegation. Vice President Khieu Samphan held sincere talks with the heads of the delegations of these friendly countries. The representatives of these friendly countries reiterated their governments' support for the just struggle of the Kampuchean people and the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea for national liberation and defense and the survival of the Kampuchean race. [Text] [BK230330 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 22 Oct 83]

SRV TYPHOON LOSSES MOURNED--Following the tragic and sad news that the SRV's Thai Binh Province has been victim of a storm, Comrade Chea Sim, chairman of the KUFNCD National Council, sent a sympathy message to Comrade Huynh Tan Phat, chairman of the VFF Central Committee. The message says, among other things: On behalf of the KUFNCD National Council, the entire Kampuchean people, and in my own name, we consider the losses of the Vietnamese people as our own. We express deep regrets to the victims' families, and sadly and most sincerely share the sorrow. May the relations of friendship, militant solidarity, and special cooperation between our two peoples and fronts be further strengthened. [Text] [BK200654 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0430 GMT 19 Oct 83]

UN HUMANITARIAN OFFICIAL VISITS--Phnom Penh, 17 Oct (SPK)--Robert Jackson, special envoy of the UN secretary general in charge of humanitarian aid program for Kampuchea, paid a visit to the PRK from 10 to 13 October. The diplomat had talks with several Kampuchean personalities, particularly Chan Si, chairman of the Council of Ministers; Hun Sen, minister of foreign affairs; Chea Soth, minister of planning; and Kong Samol, minister of agriculture. [Text] [BK170537 Phnom Penh SPK in French 0417 GMT 17 Oct 83]

CSO: 4219/7

BRIEFS

COOPERATION DELEGATION--Vientiane, 15 Oct (OANA-KPL)--A delegation of the Laos-Vietnam cooperation led by Soukhoun Phounsavat [name as received], deputy-minister of the trade, this morning, left here for Hanoi to pay an official visit to Vietnam. The Lao delegation is to exchange views regarding the settlement of trade accounts, questions involving credits, other cooperation matters between the two countries for the year 1983. [Text] [BK170806 Vientiane KPL in English 0853 GMT 15 Oct 83 BK]

PARTY DELEGATION TO KAMPUCHEA--Vientiane, 15 Oct (OANA-KPL)--A delegation of the Party Ideology and Training Board led by its head Somlat Chanthamat who is also member of the party CC, this morning left here for Kampuchea. The Lao delegation is to attend the meeting of the heads of the party ideology and training boards of the three Indochinese countries to be held in Phnom Penh on October 18-20. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0857 GMT 15 Oct 83 BK]

KPL DELEGATION TO CUBA--Vientiane, 13 Oct (KPL)--A delegation of KHAO SAN PATHET LAO News Agency (KPL) led by its Deputy-General Director Bounteng Vongsai, yesterday left here for Cuba. The delegation in the conference of general directors of news agencies of the socialist countries which will be held Havana of the Republic of Cuba from 18 to 20 October. [sentence as received]. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0917 GMT 13 Oct 83 BK]

UN ASSISTANCE FOR WAREHOUSE--Vientiane, 15 Oct (OANA-KPL)--A ceremony of presentation of document on the repairing and expanding the Thanaleng warehouse (14 km from Vientiane) was held here yesterday. The UN equipment fund and the UNDP are to fund the construction of this warehouse which amounts to a little over 2.5 million dollars. The feasibility study is to be carried out in October and the actual construction work is expected to begin in 1984. Present at the ceremony were Soukhoun Phounsavan [name as received], deputy of the Trade Ministry and UNDP representative to Laos Caspar Jan Kamp. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0855 GMT 15 Oct 83 BK]

CSO: 4200/123

ANTIREBELLION LAW CHALLENGED IN COURT

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 23 Oct 83 pp 1, 13

[Article by Joseph LaRiosa]

[Text]

Nullum crimen sine lege
(no crime without a law).
Nullum crimen sine poena
(no crime without a penalty).

Quoting these Latin maxims, a counsel for one of those charged with rebellion before Judge Roque Tamayo of the regional trial court in Makati filed yesterday a motion to quash the case.

The lawyer for Hector H. Basan said there could be no violation because when the charge was filed on Sept. 23, the law, PD 1834, was not yet in effect.

Laws take effect only 15 days after publication in the Official Gazette, he said, and publication refers to the date the issue containing the new law was released for publication.

He presented a certification from the Government Printing Office that the issue containing PD 1834 was released for circulation only on Sept. 29.

The lawyer of another accused, Danilo Olaverre,

said that the more applicable charge in his case is "tumult and other disturbances of public order," as provided in Art. 153 of the Revised Penal Code.

The counsel of Salvador A. Ampa filed an urgent motion for bail, also claiming that PD 1834 is an "ex-post facto law," as it inflicts greater punishment than the law in force at the time the offense was allegedly committed.

Meanwhile, rallies were held in Mandaluyong and Pasig yesterday.

Rallyists marched towards San Felipe Neri Church on Boni ave. via Shaw Blvd., Mandaluyong, starting at about 1 p.m.

At about 3 p.m., another group held a rally in Plaza Pariancillo in Pasig.

Both rallies were organized by the United Nationalist Democratic Organization (UNIDO) to protest the assassination of former Sen. Benigno S. Aquino, Jr.

FOUL PLAY RULED OUT IN PC INTELLIGENCE CHIEF'S DEATH

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 20 Oct 83 p 24

[Text] Lt. Gen. Fidel V. Ramos, Constabulary chief and director general of the Integrated National Police, discounted foul play in the fatal accident of Brig. Gen. Baltazar Aguirre, Jr., PC intelligence chief, and his wife, Carmen, along E. delos Santos ave. last Sept. 22.

Ramos made this statement to dispel reports and allegations aired by some quarters that there might have been some foul play connected with the accident.

The PC chief said that based on the statement of witnesses and the evidence gathered by the Constabulary Highway Patrol Group (CHPG) under Col. Protacio A. Laroya, "it is concluded that the tragedy was accidental."

Ramos released the findings of the CHPG to members of the Aguirre family who called on him at Camp Crame yesterday to express their gratitude for the concern of the PC-INP command during their bereavement.

The CHPG investigation disclosed that the Volkswagen Kombi of the Aguirres was traveling along EDSA heading Northward and upon reaching the Guadalupe Bridge in Mandaluyong, at about 11:40 p.m., a speeding 10-wheeler truck traveling in the same direction side-wiped the Kombi at the right side, forcing it to swerve to the left.

At about that time, a 14-wheeler truck-trailer which happened to be traveling along EDSA towards the south came and collided with the Kombi, causing it to turn turtle and fall on its top totally wrecked.

CSO: 4200/125

COLUMNIST REACTS TO ROMULO UN ADDRESS ON WEAPONS FREEZE

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 20 Oct 83 p 4

[Column by Benedicto David: "The Bystanders"]

[Text] The Philippines has asked both the United States and the Soviet Union to freeze the development, the number, and the deployment of bigger and better weapons of destruction.

This is, of course, the only sane thing to do when two parties are amassing weapons of destruction which could, conceivably, wipe out all of mankind while the protagonists try to wipe out each other.

The deployment of Pershing and Cruise missiles by the United States is a direct answer to the deployment of Soviet missiles in Europe and in the Far East. And that was the result of the development of the smart missiles as well as the funding of the neutron bomb. And that was the result of the increase in the number of tank divisions in Europe.

We could go down in history and go back ultimately to the first man who took up a stone instead of fighting with his bare hands--over a piece of meat or a fruit.

No one can really blame the other for the situation. It is one as old as mankind. It is one as natural to man as breathing. It is competition--for wealth and for power.

The call of Foreign Minister Romulo will, as usual, fall on deaf ears. That is so because neither side can afford to listen. Neither side can afford to stop. Each side is riding the tiger (would you believe the same one?) and whoever lets go gets gobbled up--with the world as usual cheering for the winner--or the new challenger.

What both sides are actually looking for is a viable balance of power, for that is the only sure guarantee for stability. They are now seeking a new balance.

Such a balance has existed before. Hopefully such a balance will exist again, for the balance is not purely military nor is it purely external.

Immediately after World War II, there was relative peace although the United States was certainly the most powerful nation of this planet. There was balance because the internal situation in the United States precluded another war. The United States had all the weapons but not the will to fight. There was, literally, no one to fight against and it was the internal situation in the United States that precluded a conquest of the entire world and the establishment of a Pax Americana.

When the Soviet Union (and later China) began building up, there was imbalance. A challenger emerged: communism--and the building up of weapons began anew.

And that is where we are today. We are still seeking a balance between the world powers and the little boys simply have to sit by patiently and hope that a new balance may be achieved peacefully instead of through the use of nuclear, chemical, biological, or laser weaponry.

It is good for the Third World countries to ask that the arsenals be kept "as is" but it would be stupid to think that the superpowers would accede to that request.

The ultimate balance may finally be reached when each side, by destroying or even attacking the other, would itself be destroyed in the process.

In such a case, the only option would be to keep the peace. And that is where we seem to be heading at this point.

Meanwhile, we have our amateurish little wars and revolutions doing no damage but to ourselves while we support the arms producers of the world--with our blood.

CSO: 4200/125

COLUMNIST ON NEW PHASE OF POLITICAL OPPOSITION

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 24 Oct 83 p 4

[Noel Cabrera in the "As We See It" column: "Period of Consolidation"]

[Text]

THE POLITICAL re-awakening that began late August this year appears to be emerging from its initial phase of shock, anger, and aggressive militancy. Though confetti still drizzles in Makati and Liwasang Bonifacio occasionally swells with demonstrators in short-lived assemblies, there is a noticeable quieting down of passions and activities.

The prevailing mood can be deceptive, though. It is a mistake for anyone to think the protest movement has been dampened and scuttled for the more pressing and concrete problems of daily living. The current tight money situation could actually heighten public involvement in this movement.

It is perhaps more accurate to view what appears to be an ebb of enthusiasm on the part of rallyists as a sign that this political re-awakening has entered a new phase, a period of consolidation. It should come as no surprise to discover that under this mantle of relative silence from opposition leaders is an attempt to organize at all levels and sectors to pave the way for more directed and programmed efforts. The next few months will bear watching.

...

Something is finally being done to rectify the horrid mistake of detaining in Muntinlupa prisons the more than 60 demonstrators arrested in recent rallies. Orders have been given to transfer them to military camps where hopefully they would be accorded better treatment and facilities.

We wonder whose bright idea it was to have these demonstrators in political rallies jailed with common criminals? What makes this oversight—if indeed it was simply one—more incomprehensible is the tender age of most of the detainees, some only 14 or 16 years old. At least two have reportedly been sexually abused by hardened thugs while another now sports a tattoo forcibly marked on him by a jail gang.

How could this shocking aberration have passed almost unnoticed for over a month? We hope this incident does not betray a callousness or insensitivity on the part of some ranking military officials, or on the part of many of us for that matter.

The media and the opposition leaders probably share part of the blame. For how could a social embarrassment such as this go on for weeks without the papers and the opposition leaders clamoring loud enough in protest?

The promise of government to hold down prices of goods and commodities until December was doomed from the start. The job of going after hoarders and profiteers — from the big suppliers to the smallest retailers — is simply too formidable to carry out.

Now that the jacked-up prices of many consumer items are being officially sanctioned, the need to resolve the wage increase issue has become all the more pressing. Relief in terms of higher income must come—immediately. Already, labor is restive and has threatened to stage widespread strikes and other mass actions. This could once again add fuel to the already volatile political atmosphere.

CSO: 4200/128

BIGORNIA ON MARCOS' WILLINGNESS TO COMPROMISE

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 24 Oct 83 p 6

[Column by Jesus Bigornia: "Government Sincerity on Reconciliation Put to Acid Test"]

[Text]

THE Marcos regime's sincerity in avowing a desire for national reconciliation is due for an acid test. The test is posed by a minority move in the country's law-making body aimed at (1) divesting the presidency of "emergency" powers carried over from martial rule, (2) instituting reforms in the electoral process, and (3) restoration of the vice presidency. Just how far the President will bend over backward to accommodate what may be described as the demands of a citizenry, alienated by the August 21 assassination of the opposition leader, former Senator Benigno Aquino, Jr., should serve as a gauge of the national leadership's willingness to come to peace with the opposition.

Since everybody knows that what President Marcos wants, the Batasang Pambansa gives, the resolution sponsored by Assemblyman Hilario Davide Jr. on proposed amendments to the Constitution has placed President Marcos on the proverbial spot. Even if the President has shown surprising resiliency, it would seem that the opposition does not consider his concession of offering two seats to the opposition in the pivotal Commission on Elections (Comelec), parliamentary election by province and possible minor electoral reforms adequate enough grounds for reconciliation. A citizenry already chafing from pressures from skyrocketing commodities prices is entitled to respite. Government needs all its energies and attention to pull the country out of an economic morass and disaster.

CSO: 4200/128

MANILA EDITORIAL SUPPORTS VICE PRESIDENCY

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 23 Oct 83 p 6

[Editorial: "Vice Presidency"]

[Text]

AT first the advocacy for the restoration of the position of vice president was confined to some opposition leaders and a few nonpartisan observers. Now it is gaining bipartisan support in the Batasang Pambansa.

Support for the idea is likely to swell in the coming days principally because of the public perception of the national condition. The political and economic problems which in combination are unprecedented have cast a pall of uncertainty on the public mind.

The constitutional provision on presidential succession reinforces the feeling of uncertainty because the Executive Committee, as caretaker of the government, is an untried arrangement. It may in fact work successfully, but many serious thinkers who have had some political experience have

expressed their doubts.

The present condition is relevant in another sense. As Assemblyman Arturo M. Tolentino observed, a vice president automatically takes over in the event of a contingency, while the Executive Committee has to call a special election to determine the successor.

Given the set of problems being encountered — and such problems may well reappear in the future — the delay may prove to be disastrous.

The responsibility for amending the provision on succession lies largely on the ruling party. Since it is the majority in the legislature, it decides whether the amendment should be pushed through.

If it decides favorably, the proposal can be discussed with the others dealing with Batasan representation.

VALENCIA ON NEED FOR VICE PRESIDENT, OTHER TOPICS

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 20 Oct 83 p 4

[Teodoro F. Valencia in the "Over A Cup of Coffee" column: "A VP Adds to Credibility"]

[Excerpt] WE NEED to elect a vice president if only to allay the fears of the international community on how Philippine presidents will be replaced if they die in office or become incapacitated. The executive committee, as it is, requires too much explaining to non-Filipinos and even to the Filipinos. A vice-president will add to our credibility.

Expect more than 200 assemblymen in the permanent national assembly. Since the last elections for assemblymen, new provinces have been created and the population has increased. Metro-Manila alone claims a population of 10 million today. Other cities have also increased in population or expanded their territories.

Assemblyman Arturo M. Tolentino, KBL, claims that the President's power to issue decrees will end June 30, 1984 or as soon as the present Batasang Pambansa ends its term. This is a Supreme Court decision. This means that the assemblymen who will be elected in May 1984 will have full powers of legislation--the exclusive law-making power. If so, the political parties have a clear responsibility to choose the most able candidates.

CSO: 4200/126

COMMUNIST DISCUSSES ELECTION REFORM

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 21 Oct 83 p 4

[Riguel Genoveva in the "As We See It" column: "What Provincial Polls Mean"]

[Text] THE DECISION of the Kilusang Bagong Lipunan to adopt representation by province in place of representation by region in the Batasang Pambansa is a wise move.

Considering that this is apparently acceptable not only to the ruling party and the opposition but also to the people, amending the Constitution to effect the change through the Batasan sitting as a constituent body is only a matter of time.

Election by province or by district, in the case of Metro Manila, will definitely attract more opposition candidates in next year's elections than during 1978 elections. It will also give a chance for old politicians who are in close contact with their constituents to come to the fore and be counted.

To our mind, one of the advantages of provincial representation is the development of young leaders which the present system has so far failed to accomplish among the present crop of legislators.

With their six-year terms about to come to an end, many of the Batasan members remain unknown among the constituents of their respective regions. Some have even been forgotten. Because their constituencies are too big, the legislators have failed to establish rapport with the people in their regions. In the same manner, the constituents have never developed the kind of relationship that existed between the voters and the congressmen of pre-martial law days.

In regional representation, the Batasan member has not found it compelling to build up his own political machine or a personal following that comes from constant close contact with the voters, the ward leaders of the party and local officials.

Strong party machine, bloc voting and effective campaigning from both President Marcos and the First Lady, Imelda R. Marcos, have all conspired to deny majority of the KBL assemblymen the recognition they deserve.

But under the proposed setup, aspirants for Batasan seats will have to make it not only on the strength of party machine but also on their own steam. For one thing, in the absence of bloc voting, a provincial-level campaign will be decided on the personalities of the candidates and the endorsement of the lower-level politicians.

Party platforms will still be a factor, but it is safe to say that not many voters will vote a straight ticket and that established names will have a decided advantage over newcomers.

Because of the feeling of closeness to those who voted for them, the winners in next year's elections would be obliged to act in the legislature in accordance with the needs and the mood of their constituents rather than the wishes of the party moguls.

There was a time in the old House of Representatives when a popular congressman could stand up to a president and still survive the elections because of his own hold in his province or district. A president must sometimes compromise with so-called political kingpins like this congressman to bring in the votes.

Provincial representation in the Batasan, therefore, might just provide the atmosphere needed to spawn future leaders of the country.

CSO: 4200/126

WORLD BANK CITES COCO BANK INVESTMENTS

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 20 Oct 83 p 9

[Text] THE World Bank has cited the United Coconut Planters Bank (UCPB) for spearheading a Central Bank program to resuscitate the rural banking system.

In its review of the Philippine agricultural credit sector made public recently, the WB noted that UCPB appears to be the only commercial bank that has actively supported the CB program of strengthening the capital base of rural banks.

The bank has tied up with 13 rural banks and three thrift banks nationwide pumping in a total of P115-million worth of fresh capital.

According to Noli B. Bajada, the UCPB vice-president in charge of the tie-ups, he expects the CB to approve by end-1983 the bank's tie-up with about four more rural banks and thrift banks.

The bank's capital infusion program for rural and thrift banks will continue in 1984, Bajada said.

THE World Bank prodded the CB to rehabilitate the rural banking sector in 1980 after noting that no major credit agency has the capability to provide a viable alternative to rural banks (RBs).

The WB study said RBs provide about five percent of the total institutional credit for agriculture and about 50 percent of the total production credit for cereals.

Over 85 percent of loans granted by the rural banks go to agriculture, the WB study noted while adding that it makes it imperative to keep rural banks healthy, especially with the help of commercial banks.

CSO: 4200/126

RISE OF YOUNG LEADERS FORESEEN AFTER ELECTION REFORMS

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 23 Oct 83 p 4

[Text]

BUTUAN CITY — A group of new and young leaders is expected to crop in the Batasang Pambansa in the event representation by province instead of by region is adopted for the election in May, 1984.

This was the comment of Minister of State Antonio R. Tupaz during a press-radio conference before enplaning for Manila to attend the special session of the Batasan sitting as a constituent body.

Tupaz said he will continue serving and assisting all provincial governors, mayors, barangay leaders, and other local executives in region X even if the representation in the Batasan is changed from regional to provincial.

The minister of state for local governments made this assurance in response to apprehension expressed by many local executives that some local projects which Tupaz was following up for fund allocations may no longer push

through.

Tupaz said his office is following up the projects proposed by Bukidnon Gov. Carlos O. Fortich for all municipalities in that province. These projects involve construction, improvement or repair of school buildings, and construction or rehabilitation of farm-to-market roads.

Tupaz likewise assured Oroquieta City Mayor Percival Catane that he will continue to coordinate with Assemblyman Henry Y. Regalado in pursuing development and production projects intended for Misamis Occidental.

"The greater participation of all people in the election from the barangay up to the provincial level will greatly enhance the stability of our country and will let come out true leaders who will make positive contribution to the most noble of all causes — peace in the country and unity among Filipino people," Tupaz added.

CSO: 4200/128

MARCOS RECONCILES WITH FAMILY OF POLITICAL RIVAL

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 23 Oct 83 pp 1, 8

[Text]

On the night of Sept. 20, 1935, Julio Nalundasan was felled by an assassin's bullet in Batac, Ilocos Norte.

This event altered the course of Philippine political history and brought to prominence a young law student named Ferdinand E. Marcos.

The event also opened another chapter in the bitter ancestral feud between the Marcoses and the Nalundasans, which would last through the next 50 years.

Nalundasan's killing occurred after a political parade staged by his followers to celebrate his election victory.

The President, then a law student at the University of the Philippines, was charged with the murder but was acquitted

four years later.

Yesterday, the family feud ended on a joyful note as the President and Cesar Nalundasan, son of the slain politician, met face to face for the first time.

The President cited his former political adversary for responding to his call for unity.

"It is very significant that at a time when an atmosphere of divisiveness and disunity prevails, political adversaries cast aside their differences and unite as one in a spirit of reconciliation," the President said.

Nalundasan, a practicing lawyer and professor at Araullo University in Cabanatuan City, Nueva Ecija, called on the President to pledge his support.

He also backed the President on proposals to convene a national recon-

ciliation council.

The trial and defense in the resulting court battle was handled by Marcos himself before the Supreme Court.

In its landmark decision acquitting the accused, the Supreme Court said:

"By a large, we find the testimony (of Calisto Aguinaldo) to be inherently improbable and full of contradictions in important details. For this reason, we decline to give him any credit. In view of this conclusion, we find it neither necessary nor profitable to examine the corroborative evidence presented by the prosecution. Where the principal and basic evidence upon which the prosecution rests its case fails, all evidence intended to support or corroborate it must likewise fail."

CSO: 4200/128

CITIZENS MOVEMENT SEEKS ROLE IN ELECTIONS

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 21 Oct 83 p 5

[Text] The National Citizens Movement for Free Elections has asked the Commission on Elections to deputize it for election duties in the election of members of the Batasang Pambansa next year.

The NCMFE is the umbrella group for national civic, business, professional, and religious organizations working for free and honest elections.

The NCMFE had earlier submitted a package of electoral reform proposals to the Batasang Pambansa and President Marcos. The Batasan majority and the President have come out in support of most of the proposals.

The national group, its leaders said, intends to organize provincial, city and town coordinators to help keep the sanctity of the ballot in the elections next year.

Among its electoral reform proposals are abolition of block voting, election of Batasan members by province, establishment of a new permanent registry of voters, opposition representation in the election registration boards, the citizens election committees, and the board of canvassers and a stricter ban on turn-coatism.

President Marcos also approved the group's proposal to fill vacancies in the Comelec with at least two nominees from the opposition.

The NCMFE's steering committee is composed of Dean Jose Y. Feria, Sr., president of the Council of the Laity of the Philippines; Dr. Enrique P. Syquia, president of the Philippine Bar Association; Vicente R. Jayme, co-chairman, Bishops-Businessmen's Conference; Raul S. Roco, president, Integrated Bar of the Philippines; former Comelec Chairman Jaime B. Ferrer, and businessman Jose Concepcion, Jr.

The Rotary, Jaycees, Lions and Kiwanis organizations are involved in the campaign to ensure free and honest elections.

The group submitted last week its proposals to the Batasan committee on revision of laws and codes and constitutional amendments during a public hearing presided over by Political Affairs Minister Leonardo E. Perez.

Later, the group met with the President to appeal that nominees from the opposition be appointed to the Comelec.

In past elections, the Comelec had deputized civic and private groups to help it ensure clean elections.

CSO: 4200/125

SIX PROVINCES RECONSTITUTED

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 21 Oct 83 p 30

[Text] Six provinces in Central Luzon have been reconstituted into an Armed Forces Regional Unified Command-III with headquarters at San Fernando, Pampanga.

Sources in the office of Gen. Fabian C. Ver, AFP chief of staff said Brig. Gen. Jose P. Magno, Jr., incumbent commander of the Central Mindanao Command (Cencom) based in Cotabato City has been tapped as RUC-III commanding general.

According to the AFP-GHQ sources, Magno has already been alerted for the new assignment, effective Nov. 1, or even much earlier.

AFP-RUC-III includes the provinces of Bulacan, Nueva Ecija, Pampanga, Tarlac, Bataan and Zambales.

The same provinces make up PC/INP Region III under the command of Brig. Gen. Bienvenido L. Felix.

Under the set-up as in four other AFP-RUC's earlier activated, the PC/INP Regional Command-III would be under the operational jurisdiction of the AFP-RUC-III, with the organic PC and INP personnel as "territorial forces."

The five other AFP-RUCs earlier activated included AFP-RUC-IV, comprising the provinces of Rizal, Laguna, Cavite, Batangas, Quezon, Mindoro Oriental and Mindoro Occidental and Palawan--with Brig. Gen. Andres B. Ramos as commanding general.

AFP-RUC-V under the command of Brig. Gen. Jose Alcaneses, is made up of the provinces of Albay, Camarines, Norte, Camarines Sur, Sorsogon, Marinduque, and Romblon.

AFP-RUC-VI with Brig. Gen. Isidro de Guzman as commander is made up of the provinces of Iloilo, Aklan, Capiz, Negros Occidental and Negros Oriental.

CSO: 4200/125

DEVALUATION GAINS BY BANKS RESTRICTED

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 20 Oct 83 p 15

[Text] The Central Bank yesterday restricted the disposition of "extraordinary income" derived by banks from the change in the peso-dollar exchange rate from P11 to P14 for every dollar.

In a resolution approved by the monetary board, the CB prohibited the commercial banks from declaring cash dividends out of such ordinary income.

Commercial banks hold as part of their investment portfolios dollars and other foreign exchange in the form of placements or time deposits with foreign banks.

When the peso was devalued to the new guiding rate, these banks overnight realized windfall profits out of these foreign exchange placements.

According to the policy guidelines approved by the monetary board, such "extraordinary income" may be used by commercial banks only for the following purposes:

1. To accelerate the booking of otherwise unbooked valuation reserves, and/or;
2. To increase the allowance for probable losses to such an amount as the bank management may deem prudent.

After satisfying these requirements, the remainder of the "extraordinary income" realized from the peso devaluation, if any, may either be transferred to surplus which, after one year, may be made available for cash dividends subject to prior CB approval.

Such balance may also be declared as stock dividends, subject to prior CB approval.

The guidelines also provided that such "extraordinary income" should be excluded in the computation by the bank concerned of net income "for purposes of profit-sharing programs of bank directors, officers, and employees.

The new policy covers only the windfall income realized by the banks from the Oct 5 devaluation of the peso, which resulted in a 27.27 percent

depreciation of the local currency's exchange rate against the US dollar.

Windfall profits derived by the banks from the previous devaluation last June 23, resulting in a 7.8 per cent peso rate depreciation, may, impliedly, be appropriated by banks as their management wishes.

CSO: 4200/125

PANIC BUYING, DEPLETED GROCERIES REPORTED

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 20 Oct 83 p 4

[Article by Jesus Bigornia in his Daily Column]

[Excerpt] THE spirit remains, but the flesh just is not there. That, in a nutshell, describes the crunch in which the system of Kadiwa stores in Metro Manila now find themselves. Their work forces are there with their fixed smiles but their shelves are bare of goods to sell. Householders, alarmed by multi-peso mark-ups on canned items in metropolitan supermarkets and groceries, have been on an orgy of panic buying since Monday. Reports have it that most of the Kadiwa stores, particularly those on Visayas avenue and in Cubao, both in Quezon City, were cleaned up of canned stuff.

Reports claiming groceries and supermarkets were "building up inventories," a euphemism for hoarding, in anticipation of higher prices when fuel costs are revised upward, had spread like wildfire over the weekend triggering the panic buying spree. Housewives had targeted the Kadiwa stores nearest their homes for stock replenishment. They came out empty-handed, blaming the management of the National Food Authority for the stock shortages.

Officials of the National Food Authority have always assured the public that the Kadiwa stores were set up to provide the city's poor with food items at reasonable prices and, incidentally, help stabilize prices of food items. At a time when prices of comestibles have been constantly rising, the NFA should have been stocking its outlets with the poor man's food needs. The officials of NFA have a lot of explaining to assuage the anger of city housewives.

CSO: 4200/125

BUSINESS INVESTMENTS DROP NEARLY 60 PERCENT

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 19 Oct 83 p 10

[Text] THE political uncertainty and tight credit situation prevailing in the country took their toll on investments in new businesses last month when these dropped by almost 60 percent from the previous month's figure of P387.1 million.

The drop in investments was accompanied by the decline in the number of newly-registered firms, according to the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC).

Fresh investments of 454 new companies last month amounted to only P156.1 million. The SEC said, however, that the figure was higher by 42.1 percent compared to the investments recorded during the same month last year.

THE SEC said the cumulative investments from January to September this year of P1.4 billion was also higher than last year's investments of P1.1 billion covering the eight-month period.

THE SUSTAINED growth in corporate investments during the January-to-September period this year was fueled by the mass-base interest in the housing program, which required huge amount of financing, the SEC pointed out.

As a result, the financing, insurance, real estate and business services sector accounted for 56.1 percent of the total equity contributed by new corporations amounting to P791.3 million.

SEC Chairman Manuel G. Abello, meanwhile, reiterated that the commission has relayed the registration and licensing rules for new corporations in view of the prevailing "difficult times."

Abello said he has also instructed the various SEC departments to be lax in penalizing erring companies by reducing their fines and giving them more time to correct their deficiencies.

He said the SEC will also reduce its various fees.

He said, however, that the SEC will not allow this to be used by unscrupulous businessmen as a vehicle in committing fraud. Abello said the SEC can easily spot such violation easily.

ROAD TAX ON VEHICLES UNDER CONSIDERATION

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 19 Oct 83 p 7

[Text] THE GOVERNMENT is considering the imposition of a road tax on all land vehicles to raise revenues needed for the maintenance of roads and highways.

The new tax has been endorsed by a technical secretariat of the National Economic and Development Authority. The secretariat has also recommended the lowering of existing vehicle registration fees to a uniform rate of P100.

Members of the secretariat said the road tax will offset any revenue loss that may result from the reduced registration fees.

Existing rates collected by the Bureau of Land Transportation range from about P350 to over P1,000, excluding additional administrative costs and surcharges in case of delayed registration.

TRANSPORTATION ministry sources said that the road tax scheme is similar to the road-user fees charged in many industrialized countries where road and highway maintenance is a priority service.

As proposed, the road tax will be graduated based on the factors of differentiation which the BLT now adopts in collecting registration fees. These factors are weight, cubic displacement or number of cylinders, and usage.

No specific amounts were mentioned in the tax proposal, but the NEDA technical secretariat said these will equal the existing fees, aside from registration, begin levied by the BLT.

Hence, the secretariat said, the government does not expect to lose any revenue from car registrants. In effect, sources said, only the nature of the levies changes, that is, from license fees to taxes.

THE NEDA said the imposition of the road tax and the standardization of vehicle fees are in line with intention of Batas Pambansa 325 which called for the revision of existing government fees and charges to a level that would approximate the cost of administration.

At present, the BLT earns an annual income of about P800 million from the registration and additional administrative levies on more than 1.2 million vehicles in the country.

The yearly revenues are said to be more than the annual operating requirements of the BLT.

CSO: 4200/124

ARMY-POLICE ARMALITES DISPUTE EXPLAINED

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 21 Oct 83 pp 1, 12

[Text] Armed Forces authorities said yesterday that the 20,000 pistolized "baby" Armalites to be purchased out of a P57-million loan will not be issued to individual members of the Integrated National Police (INP) but to police units on a "case to case basis."

An earlier announcement by an AFP spokesman said that a P45-million loan from the AFP Retirement Service Benefit System would be used to purchase 28,000 Armalites to arm INP members.

The announced purchase was opposed by several AFP generals who said that the weapons are too powerful for policemen who are not trained to use them.

The generals also pointed out that policemen armed with such weapons would become easy prey for rebels who have intensified their "agaw armas" (snatching guns) drive.

Yesterday, an officer in the staff of Gen. Fabian C. Ver, Armed Forces chief of staff, said that the earlier announcement was "erroneous," lacking in details that resulted in a sharp reaction from some generals.

The officer said that the amount of the loan is P57 million, not P45 million as earlier announced and that the number of Armalites to be bought is only 20,000, not 28,000.

Of the P57 million, the officer in Ver's staff said that P12 million had already been advanced to Elisco Tool, a local firm licensed to manufacture the Armalites.

The officer stressed that the Armalites will be issued on a case-to-case basis to police units, not to individual policemen. The guns will replace the carbines, Garand rifles, and Thompson submachineguns now being used by police units.

The policeman will continue to have his usual firearm, a .38 caliber revolver, aside from his club.

GENERAL RAMAS ASSAILS 'BLACK PROPAGANDISTS'

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 23 Oct 83 pp 1, 13

[Article by Jose De Vera]

[Text]

Maj. Gen. Josephus Q. Ramas, Army commanding general, said yesterday that "black propagandists have been bombarding Fort Bonifacio with leaflets on the assassination of former Sen. Benigno S. Aquino, Jr. and pointing to the military as executioner."

The rumormongers and propagandists, according to Ramas, also circulate Betamax tapes produced in foreign countries on the Aquino assassination to further promote the "hate campaign."

On top of that, Ramas added, "many of our well-meaning leaders in the 13

barangays that make up the military reservation have joined the black propaganda campaign."

"Even school heads and teachers in public barangay elementary and high schools, as complained of by parents of school children, were forcing the children to read the leaflets, see the Betamax played, and believe in what is printed and filmed in the tapes," he said.

Ramas made the disclosure in a speech delivered at the 11th anniversary celebration of the Headquarters and Headquar-

ters Service Group of the Army under Col. Angel L. Sedang, also post commander of Fort Bonifacio.

All officials of the 13 barangays within the fort and most of the residents in the military reservation attended the affair and heard Ramas "share with them" the military feelings on the Aquino incident.

"Only God knows who masterminded the assassination or execution of Ninoy Aquino," Ramas said.

"An investigation is

going on and we should wait for results before we judge the findings later, instead of assassinating and impugning the probers before they can fully start," Ramas said.

On the Betamax tapes, Ramas said he himself saw five different tapes which were made in the United States, Japan, West Germany, England, and the Philippines.

The tapes, according to Ramas, have different versions of the Aquino killing.

FEARS OF THIRD DEVALUATION, BLACK MARKET RATES REPORTED

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 22 Oct 83 p 10

[Text]

THE peso is likely to be devalued for the third time this year unless confidence in the Philippines' political and economic stability is restored, bankers and economists said.

Widespread speculation on a further devaluation has pushed the black market rate in the last few days to P24 to P26 to the US dollar, from P18 last week and compared with an official bank rate of P14.

Bankers said a devaluation could come in December or early next year.

Central Bank Governor Jaime Laya, speaking a few days after the 21.4-percent devaluation of October 5, did not discount a further devaluation. The first, 7.2 percent was in June.

The Central Bank said the peso has depreciated 34 percent since January. In the last two devaluations, it attributed the depreciation to the balance of payments deficit, which rose to a record high of \$1.4 billion at the end of the third quarter following the murder of opposition leader Benigno Aquino on August 21.

ECONOMISTS said the last devaluation was a reaction to an essentially political problem due to still unresolved questions on the

assassination and lack of confidence in the government.

The second devaluation could aggravate political problems by causing strikes over wages and rising prices, one banker said. Such developments could be seen as another sign of instability, bankers told Reuters.

A recent request by the Philippine government for a 90-day suspension of payment of maturing obligations during the three months from October 17 has been cited as another factor that could lead to further economic instability.

The immediate impact of the request was the Central Bank measures to tighten dollar outflows. Lack of dollar sellers has halted dollar trading in the foreign exchange market of the Bankers Association of the Philippines since Monday.

Banks have also stopped opening letters-of-credit for imports of raw materials and capital equipment by the local manufacturing sector.

A bank economist said import controls imposed will drive up black market rates further as businessmen will be forced to buy dollars outside the banking system to finance import purchases. (Reuter)

ELECTION COMMISSION ANNOUNCES NEW LAW OF RECALL

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 23 Oct 83 p 36

[Text]

Any elective provincial, city, municipal or barangay official may now be recalled for loss of confidence upon petition of at least 25 per cent of the voters registered in the election where the official sought to be recalled was elected. Chairman Vicente M. Santiago, Jr., of the Commission on Election (Comelec) said a special election will be called when the required percentage of voters have signed the petition in a public place and before a duly authorized representative of the poll body. Santiago said that because of the novelty of the concept of recall in the country's political

system, it took some time for the Comelec to formulate the rules.

The rules state that recall may be initiated by any registered voter in the province, city, municipality or barangay concerned at any time after two years from the date the official sought to be recalled assumed office.

No recall, however, will take place within one year before a regular election, Santiago said.

The Comelec chief also said the rules on recall were issued in accordance with the Constitution and the Local Government Code which took effect last March 17.

Meanwhile, the poll body predicted a free, orderly, and honest elections next year after

assessing the general conditions of peace and order in the country.

Santiago said he was heartened by the atmosphere of calm and stability obtaining in most areas and expressed optimism that the favorable climate would prevail in next year's polls.

The Comelec chairman assessed the possibilities for a peaceful balloting after returning from a trip to Northern Mindanao (Region X) where he met with the Comelec work force in the area, including the election registrars.

According to him, he foresaw no serious threat to free elections, except in some localities.

PEREZ: AT LEAST ONE SOLON FOR EACH PROVINCE

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 20 Oct 83 pp 1, 6

[Article by David C. Borje]

[Text] EVERY PROVINCE regardless of size and cities with at least 150,000 population and P30-million yearly income shall be entitled to one representative each in the new apportionment of Batasan seats in the May 14, 1984 elections.

This was explained yesterday by Political Affairs Minister Leonardo B. Perez, chairman of the Batasan committee on revision of laws, codes and constitutional amendments which will report out the proposed Election Code for legislative approval.

Perez said his committee was still awaiting the report of a special body created by the Kilusang Bagong Lipunan as its caucus in Malacanang last Monday on the apportionment of Batasan seats in Metro Manila, whose representation will most likely be by district.

PEREZ SAID his committee has decided to assign a Batasan seat for every 277,000 population. However, members of the Batasan will not be more than 200.

He said the nationwide apportionment should be based on the 1980 census conducted by the National Census and Statistics Office, and not only any barangay census. He said experts from the MCSO will assist the Batasan in determining the ideal ratio.

THE BATASAN opened in 1978 with 192 members--179 elected, 14 sectoral representatives and 13 Cabinet members appointed.

Perez said that a province or city is entitled to more than one Batasan seat if its population meets the required ratio of 277,000 persons per representative.

He also said that any provision of the new Election Code including the Perez committee proposal, which requires constitutional amendments shall be taken up by the Batasan when it convenes as a constituent assembly.

Under Proclamation No. 2310, promulgated by President Marcos last Monday, the Batasan is called upon to consider proposals for amending the Constitution, including the change of the Batasan election system.

The Batasan entered its second day of special session yesterday under the presidential proclamation but deferred for further study matters for which it was called upon, like the designation of two Batasan members in the new fact-finding board to investigate the assassination of former Sen. Benigno S. Aquino Jr.

IN THE FILLING UP of the four vacant slots in the Commission on Elections, Perez said, the opposition was requested to submit a list of their recommendees from which the President will choose. The President had earlier offered two of the four slots to the opposition.

Perez said, however, that the two chosen from the opposition list will not represent the opposition but will only enjoy its confidence because the Comelec, he said, is an independent body whose members shall be removed only by impeachment.

The Perez committee, at its executive session yesterday, also decided that its 24 members submit their individual amendments to the proposed election code not later than tomorrow. It will meet again on Tuesday to finalize the proposed law for floor deliberation.

The Batasan resumed yesterday deliberations on the proposed Penal Code, one of the major bills given priority consideration by the assembly this year.

CSO: 4200/126

REINVESTMENTS RISE BY 100 PERCENT, SHELL CITED

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 29 Oct 83 p 10

[Text] ADDITIONAL capital infusion by existing companies went up by 100 percent last month despite an almost 60-percent drop in fresh investments, the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) reported yesterday.

The SEC said 67 existing firms injected about P336 million in additional equity to sustain their operations and for some expansion programs. Reinvestments the month before posted only P156.3 million.

In contrast, new corporate investments last month dropped to P156.1 million from the previous month's record level of P387 million as a result of the tense political situation and tight credit prevailing in the country.

Manufacturing was the favorite industry sector where 35 percent or P118.5 million of reinvestments were channelled.

Pilipinas Shell Petroleum Corp. reinvested the biggest amount of P90.1 million to finance its expansion.

FOREIGN investments also increased by 61.7 percent last month with P3.7 million going to 43 newly-incorporated domestic firms. They also reinvested P66.9 million into 10 on-going local companies.

Industry observers attributed the increase in foreign participation in local corporations to the recent policy of the SEC to relax existing rules on foreign firms, by exempting some foreign companies from the deposit requirement.

This rule requires foreign companies doing business in the country to deposit at least P100,000 with the SEC to insure payment of their obligations when they decide to pull out.

The bulk of foreign reinvestments went into the manufacturing sector which absorbed P45.1 million of the foreign capital, all of which were invested in Pilipinas Shell by Shell Petroleum Co., Ltd., a British firm.

CSO: 4200/126

FLOUR PRICE RAISED 25 PERCENT

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 21 Oct 83 pp 1, 8

[Text] JUSTICE Minister Ricardo C. Puno created yesterday a 12-man team of government lawyers to prosecute overpricing, hoarding, and blackmarketing.

Puno said the lawyers, who are all from the National Food Authority, will also assist city and provincial fiscals in the investigation and prosecution of criminal cases involving violations of NFA laws and regulations.

Food Minister Jesus Tanchanco, said that flour prices were increased by 25 percent to offset losses for currency devaluation.

A 25-KILO bag of flour now costs P118.50, up P23.70 from the previous selling price of P94.80 per bag.

Puno's move was prompted by reports of rampant overpricing of commodities not under government price control like powdered milk, infant dietetics, corned beef, soap, detergents, and coffee.

The NFA lawyers who will form the team are Francisco Cordoba Jr., Nestor Orellana, Moreno dela Rosa, Nicholas Aquino, Saturino Rolam Jr., Archimedes Manabat, Antonio delos Santos, Jesus Michael, Teresita Bonifacio, Ely Reintan, Nilo Echaura and Napoleon Guerrero.

Allaying fears that the flour price hike would trigger off a complementary rise in the price of bread. Tanchanco said that the country's bakers have assured him that they will keep prices at present levels.

Tanchanco said the bakers told him that they have enough stocks bought at the old prices to last for at least three months.

Tanchanco said that the NFA has enough imported wheat to last till January next year.

In a related development, Metro Manila Vice Gov. Ismael Mathany Jr. yesterday blamed industrial consumers for cornering Metro Manila's sugar supply at the expense of the public.

he said that the present daily supply of sugar in the metropolis is 40,000 bags and there is no reason for a shortage.

Metropolitan Manila requires only 35,000 bags of sugar daily, Mathay said.

Worsening the situation is the tendency of consumers to indulge in panic-buying, and some store owners in hoarding the commodity, he also said.

END. 4270/126

SITUATION AT MANILA ELECTRIC DESCRIBED AS 'MUTINY'

Manila THE MANILA PAPER in English 24-30 Oct 83 pp 1, 8

[Text] More than 5,000 employees of the Manila Electric Company threatened to walk out of their jobs and disrupt electric services in Metro Manila because of attempts by company officials to prevent them from joining demonstrations over the killing of former Senator Benigno S. Aquino Jr.

A source blamed the situation on retired Gen Francisco Gatmaitan, MERALCO executive vice president and president of Meralco Industrial Engineering & Service Corporation and Metro Rail Transit Inc.

The report said that management-employee relations soured when workers suspended work last October 12 to join the "confetti revolution" and noise barrage along Ortigas Avenue. Gatmaitan tried to get them back to their offices but was met by catcalls and insults.

Planning key officials [as published]

In the face of an open revolt, the MERALCO boss had windows on the upper floors screened, told the vice president for administrative services, Raoul Inocentes, to issue a memo ordering all employees to remain at their stations during working hours, and prohibited all company vehicles from using Ortigas Avenue on rally days, it was learned.

In a subsequent demonstration, however, MERALCO workers showed their defiance of Gatmaitan by turning out en masse and carrying placards saying: "General Increase yes--General Gatmaitan, no!"

Others bore signs demanding his resignation and the return of the company to its original owners, the Lopez family, who they claim treated them better.

The Ortigas mutiny threatens to become a metro-wide revolt, with branch employees now planning to stage sympathy rallies at MERALCO's district offices, the North Operating Center in Valenzuela, Bulacan and the South Operating Center in Santa Rosa, Laguna.

Employees at Computer Information Service Inc., Philippine Encoding Corp, PULIC, Philippine Petroleum Company, First Philippine Holdings, PCIB and ECCO-Asia, all sister companies of MERALCO, are also expected to join.

METRO MANILA DIVISION INTO SEVEN DISTRICTS PLANNED

Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 19 Oct 83 p 7

[Article by Criselda Cerdena]

[Text]

METRO MANILA may be divided into seven or eight districts — with Manila and Quezon City constituting one district each — in choosing representatives to the Batasang Pambansa elections next year, Vice Gov. Ismael A. Mathay Jr. said yesterday.

Mathay said he will propose this "district representation" to the Kilusang Bagong Lipunan special committee to resolve how the metropolis can be properly represented in the Batasan.

Metro Manila was exempted last Monday from provincial representation for the assembly adopted by the KBL.

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THE PROPOSAL. Mathay said, will "assure better representation" and "give opportunity to the opposition to participate."

He said the plan will also make sure that Metro Manila is entitled to at least 24 representatives, if based on the 1982 population census, or as many as 27 representatives if this year's population is used as basis. Metro Manila now has 21 representatives to the Batasan.

Under the guidelines governing representation, there should be one representative for every 300,000

population, Mathay said. The metropolis last year had 7.2 million population and has 8.2 million residents at present.

Discounting Manila and Quezon City, he cited that the other two cities and 17 towns, under the plan, would be divided into five to six districts, with contiguous areas grouped into one district.

MANILA, which has the biggest population at two million, would have seven representatives, while Quezon City, the second-biggest with 1.8 million population, six representatives, Mathay said.

Other seats would be distributed among the districts using population as gauge for the number of representatives, the larger the population, the more the representatives.

Mathay said he is still studying contiguous cities and towns which may be grouped into the other districts in his proposal.

At present, he explained, Metro Manila is already divided into four districts to ease administration and delivery of services, including education, health, finance.

OFFICIAL DENIES SUGAR SHORTAGE

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 20 Oct 83 pp 1, 10

[Text]

There is actually no shortage of sugar supply in the domestic market although retail outlets do not seem to have enough stocks, according to Jose A. Unson, vice chairman and executive vice president of the National Sugar Trading Inc. (Nasutra).

Unson said the combined output of the four sugar refineries in operation is no less than 40,000 50-kilo bags a day, and the daily domestic requirement is only 35,000 bags nationwide.

These refineries are the Victorias in Negros Occidental, Calinog in Iloilo, Balayan in Batangas, and Insurefco in Mandaluyong.

In addition to this, he said, Nasutra is tapping the reserve refined sugar

stocks of 400,000 50-kilo bags from the Bukidnon Sugar Refinery. These stocks are being brought by barges to Metro Manila and other areas of demand.

Unson said the current situation is somewhat abnormal in the sense that speculation on a price increase for domestic sugar has loomed over the consumer market. The tempo of sugar buying on the part of the consuming public during the past few weeks has exceeded normal levels, he said.

Unson allayed apprehensions on any sugar supply shortage and said milling of the 1983-84 crop has already started. He said the situation, as far as supply is concerned, is expected to improve and normalize within a short time.

CSO: 4200/125

COLUMNIST: IMF REQUIREMENTS NOT STRICT ENOUGH

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 20 Oct 83 p 4

[Column by Apolonio Batella: "IMF Assistance"]

[Text]

IT is not uncommon to hear governments of developing countries complain against the impositions of the International Monetary Fund.

The common complaint is the IMF attaches certain restrictions on government spending, foreign exchange flows, and on credit which ostensibly make life difficult for the nation.

It has been pointed out, for instance, that in the case of a group of countries geographically close to one another, the prescription of limiting imports will result in a reduction of exports and thereby aggravate the economic problems of those countries.

It has also been said that tight credit restricts economic activity and therefore hampers economic growth.

The principal justification for conditionality is to cure imbalances to the end that inflation is minimized and the economy is brought back to the track of self-sustaining growth.

The IMF may well say that if a country disapproves of the conditions, it can very well abstain from excessive borrowing from the IMF. But the IMF does not say so to its member countries.

The complaints against IMF are not limited to the governments of

needy developing countries. State-men, such as Henry A. Kissinger, have inveighed against the IMF in behalf of the poor countries.

If there is one good complaint against the IMF it is not that it interferes too much in a country's economic affairs but that it interferes too little.

Basically, the IMF confines itself to the statistics presented by the needy member. It studies the figures on such things as production, imports, exports, inflation, domestic demand, and so on.

It does not inquire too deeply into the causes of imbalances. It does not, for example, ask if graft is rampant in the government, since its interlocutor is the government and the government will not admit it, anyway.

We don't think it questions the government's priorities, but if it does it does not inquire too deeply into the matter.

If on the basis of the figures it determines that government spending is excessive, it requires the member to trim its deficit. If it finds that inflation is high, it may recommend a certain ceiling for credit.

The IMF acts more on the symptoms than on the true cause of the disease and hopes that in so doing

the disease is cured. It is a tourniquet and does not suck out the venom from the bloodstream.

It leaves it to the needy member itself to cure the disease.

The superficiality of the assistance given by the IMF to some of its members may be shown by the present plight of the most hard-pressed debtors, which include the Philippines.

For decades, the country has been availing itself of its membership rights. Through the years, it has been going from one adjustment program to another with IMF assistance. But up to the present, the country has not sufficiently restructured or adjusted its economy to rely less on continued IMF support.

Probably, if the IMF could poke its nose into every nook and cranny of Philippine affairs the country would not have been so hard up as it is today.

But the rule has always been to let the member do its thing. It cannot be otherwise.

Be that as it may, it has been shown that IMF influence is greater than what may be ordinarily supposed. For example, commercial banks may decide to lend or not to lend depending on IMF attitudes toward a member.

DEPOSIT LIABILITIES RESERVES HIKE THREE PERCENT

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 21 Oct 83 p 23

[Article by Loreto Cabanes]

[Text]

In a move that is expected to result in a further tightening of the credit situation, the monetary board yesterday decided to raise the reserves banks are required to maintain against their deposit liabilities from the present 20 per cent to 23 per cent.

The three-per cent hike in reserve requirements is to be implemented in two stages—1.5 per cent on Nov. 1 and another 1.5 per cent on Dec. 1.

This move, which is part of the austerity package asked by the International Monetary Fund in connection with the Philippine request for a new standby credit facility, followed the two-per cent increase already put into effect last Sept. 1 and Oct. 1.

This brings to five per cent the magnitude

of increase in reserve requirements imposed by the Central Bank on all banking institutions in a span of four months.

According to the monetary board resolution approved in a special meeting yesterday, the new increase in reserve requirements shall cover demand, savings, NOW (negotiable order of withdrawal), and short-term time deposits (with maturities of less than two years).

Deposit substitute liabilities (money market placements of short-term maturities) are likewise covered by the increase.

Long-term time deposits (those with maturities of over two years), whose reserve requirements at present are 5.0 per cent are not covered.

The new hike in reserve requirements

covers all types of banking institutions, including government-owned or controlled banks.

Banking sources disclosed yesterday that this latest move would construct the credit supply even more and could result in a further increase in the cost of borrowings and inevitably in a further slowing down of lendings.

But the monetary authorities were apparently so concerned by the inflationary pressures which may build up from the Oct. 5 peso devaluation of 27.27 per cent that they felt a further mopping up of available credit and reduction in money supply were necessary.

They also insisted that cutting down the amount of credit supply in the financial sys-

tem would dampen import demand some more.

Because of the current foreign exchange crisis brought about by the \$1.36 billion payments shortfall in the third quarter, the CB is trying to prune down imports to as low as possible while trying to maximize inflows from exports, remittances and other sources.

Based on a previous estimate by the CB, a one per cent hike in reserve requirements "freezes" at least P750 million in otherwise loanable funds of the banking system.

The three per cent raise, therefore, is expected to withdraw from the loanable funds of the banking system about P2.25 billion, in addition to the P1.5 billion already mopped up in September and October.

MARITIME INDUSTRY EARNINGS REPORTED

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 21 Oct 83 p 31

[Article by Pal L. Ravina]

[Text]

Five major sectors of the maritime industry have earned a total of \$323.96 million in 1982, the Maritime Industry Authority (Marina), the promotional and regulatory arm of the maritime industry, reported. The industry has been a consistent dollar earner of the country for the past years.

Capt. Victorino A. Basco, Marina administrator, speaking during a press conference highlighting this year's observance of Maritime Development Week held at the Marina operations room and attended by representatives of the different sectors of the maritime industry, said that Filipino overseas seafarers accounted the biggest share with \$168 million followed by manning/crewing agencies with \$70 million, Philippine ship agents with \$54.9 million, Philippine overseas shipowners with \$27.2 million, and ship chandlers with \$3.77 million.

Basco said that in spite of the reduction in the number of foreign-owned vessels manned by Filipino seafarers as a result of the impending recession, interdictions by a foreign labor union, and the stiff competition being waged by competitor seamen-supplying countries, the Philippines expects to maintain its level of foreign exchange earnings from the maritime industry to \$300 million.

He said that another project of the Marina which envisions to earn about \$330 million for the country yearly is the bill filed with the Batasang Pambansa, otherwise known as the Omnibus Overseas Shipping Act of 1983.

The bill seeks a joint venture equity of 51-49 between local businessmen and foreign shipowners. It allows the registry of foreign vessels in the Philippines and guided by agreements under the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD).

Manning requirements will be all-Filipino except in specialized positions where no local manpower is available.

Basco said that the Philippines will generate its earnings from registration fees of vessels, their annual tonnage tax, and from the earnings of the Filipino crew of said vessels which he projected to about \$300 million a year.

He said that the Marina and the private sector of the maritime industry have certified the urgency of the passage of the bill at the Batasang Pambansa, adding that as of last report the bill has passed on second reading.

On the other hand, Capt. Vicente Brillantes, president of the Filipino Association for Mariners' Employment (FAME), and Miguel Magaayay, president of the Filipino Shipowners Association (FSA), asked the government to give more incentives to the maritime industry to enable it to generate more dollars for the country, especially at this time when there is a need for more foreign

exchange to back up her socio-economic programs.

They said that government support to the seafaring industry, for instance, should be extended in the exemption of tax and duties on the importation of such needed training facilities and navigational equipment to upgrade the quality and competency of Filipino seafarers in accordance with international standards to be more acceptable to foreign shipowners in the wake of strong competition from other seamen supplying countries like Korea, Taiwan, India, Pakistan, Indonesia, among others.

Brillantes and Magaayay also urged government agencies involved in regulation and supervision of the maritime industry, particularly seamen industry to rationalize their procedures like in the processing of employment papers (contracts and passports) to facilitate the exports of Filipino manpower to help increase the country's dollar earnings.

CIVIL SERVICE BODY ASSERTS AUTHORITY, OPPOSES PRESIDENT

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 21 Oct 83 p 40

[Text]

The Civil Service Commission sought yesterday to assert its constitutional authority to prevent further dismissals of state employees through directives issued "upon orders of the President."

The commission referred in particular to the cases of Rogelio T. Bilan and Jose Caharian, both internal revenue examiners, who were fired on the

strength of a Malacañang directive, despite contrary civil service findings.

The presidential assistant for legal affairs, in a resolution assailed the jurisdiction of the CSC and the Merit Systems Board which entertained the examiners' appeals, saying their dismissals were "upon orders" of the President.

The resolution declared the commission

order and decision on the two cases null and void.

Headed by Chairman Albina Manalo Dans, the commission met en banc yesterday and decided to counter the move, and any other similar moves, which will reportedly weaken the CSC's supremacy on all cases prejudicial to state workers and on matters designed to strengthen the civil service system.

CSO: 4200/125

ATHIT VIEWS ATTACHE ROLES AS ARMS BUYERS

Bangkok MATUPHUM in Thai 21 Sep 83 pp 1, 2

[Excerpts] Athit reiterated that army attaches in Russia, Malaysia, Indonesia, the United States, and Japan have full authority to buy and sell arms and to circumvent middlemen trying to make money. He entrusted them with keeping an eye on the development of each country, and mentioned specifically that Thailand still faces threats, pointing to Burma's reinforcement of pro-Chinese communists.

The morning of 20 Sep at the Bangkok Peace-keeping Command six assistant army attaches and deputy assistant army attaches who are to be stationed in Russia, Malaysia, Indonesia, the United States, and Japan came to take leave of General Athit Kamlangek, Army Commander-in-Chief. The Army Commander-in-chief gave a speech asking all the assistant army attaches to try to oversee the purchase of arms and military equipment which the army needs to procure. This is in order to get economical prices and high-quality goods. [He stated that] the army was well aware that in the purchase of arms and equipment there is a great deal of hullabaloo, and therefore a firm policy must be laid down to use assistant army attaches as the principals owing to the fact that they are stationed in the producing countries. This makes the attaches' duties more important, because from his [Athit's] own agreeing to buy [arms] directly, it seemed that prices are considerably reduced--in some cases, by 20 million baht, which is extremely valuable. The army could take that amount of money and buy other types of weapons as well.

General Athit reiterated that when one goes directly to the company, one will get a low price. If one goes through middlemen in Thailand, of whom there are many, the price goes up. The companies bill us now; therefore, let us buy directly from them, no matter what it is, since we have assistant army attaches able to act as the eyes and ears of the army.

Gen Athit spoke, entrusting them with duties abroad, and saying that he wanted the assistant army attaches to report on the changes and development of various weapons which can be of use to the Thai army, no matter whether they are developments of armies of democratic or socialist countries. In addition, he asked assistant army attaches to be leaders in meeting with Thai people abroad to reduce their anxieties about various matters, such as

the border situation, or different subjects on which the assistant army attache's word would have much weight; and he asked that they spread news of army activities, government policies, even their majesties the king and queen's activities, in order to let Thai people who are far away know to lessen their anxiety. [He stated that] therefore they would have to tightly coordinate their work with the Intelligence Department.

As for daily duties, the army commander-in-chief said that assistant army attaches must oversee army scholarship students and those who have come as observers. This is in order to be of use to the nation and the army in the future.

12532

CSO: 4206/7

SPECIAL BRANCH TO BE REORGANIZED

Bangkok MATUPHUM in Thai 22 Sep 83 pp 1, 12

Text Massive transfers occurred on the police-level commander to purge the old networks in the Special Branch Police, moving six deputy chiefs and three commanders. An indicator of the situation is Udom Charoen's being pulled back to command the Sixth Division in order to cut off the "Ari" network. In other divisions, the enforcement line has risen as a solid wall because of the emphasis on results.

Gen Sitthi Chirarot, minister of the interior, on the morning of 21 Sep revealed that the reason that the consideration of deputy chief and police-level commander transfers by the Police Commission on 20 Sep took ten hours was because in these transfers and appointments the commission members considered the appropriateness and the rationale for each individual, and there was a great deal of questioning and explanation.

As for the deliberations of the Police Commission which have just ended, a total of 9 transfer orders were signed, involving 254 persons.

News reports from the Police Department revealed that as for the general headquarters of the Special Branch, there can be considered to have been a great many changes, such as on the part of the deputy commanders. This is stemming from Police Colonel Kasem Saengmit's rise to become the chief of the Special Branch, Police Colonel Siri Sucharitkun's transfer to accept the position of coordinator in the National Security Council, the promotion to general in different units of two others, and the retirement from government service of two more. Therefore, there has been the promotion and appointment of six more deputy commanders, namely:

- 1) Police Colonel Chusit Suchato, from deputy commander of Central Investigations;
- 2) Police Colonel Chinda Duangchinda, from deputy commander of the Research and Planning Division;
- 3) Police Colonel Chamnong Soemsawat, from chief of the Office of Foreigners and Refugee Supervision;

4) Police Colonel Sombun Thongkun, rising from chief of the Sixth Division of the Special Branch;

5) Police Colonel Narong Kanthaphong, rising from chief of the Fourth Division of the Special Branch;

and 6) Police Colonel Wora Iammongkhon, from chief of Central Investigations.

And as for the chiefs of the different divisions of the Special Branch, there were changes in three divisions, namely the Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth, especially the Sixth, which is in charge of the important job of control and surveillance of communist activities in Bangkok. News reports stated that there was much interest surrounding this division because the former chief transferred up to become deputy commander, and the expected successors were all from various of the many different networks. But in the deliberations of the Police Commission, it turned out to be Police Lieutenant Colonel Udom Charoen, who transferred in from chief of Policy and Planning.

News reports said that Lt Col Udom is a product of the directorate of the very same division, but had been kicked out two to three years ago because of internal disputes and problems between the networks. Formerly, Pol Lt Col Udom was once deputy chief. He was under consideration this year because the Police Commission's deliberations and the new head of the Special Branch were aware of this expertise in work of this kind, and desired to purge the influence of networks which had been set up. Pol Lt Col Udom therefore eventually came to oversee the work of the Sixth Division.

As for in the directorate of the Fourth Division, from the rise to deputy head of the former chief, the person appointed as replacement is Police Colonel Winit Watthanachinda, rising from chief attached to the Special Branch division and the Fifth Directorate. Because Police Colonel Thawip Bunnak, the former head, transferred to become third chief of the Registration Division, Police Colonel Sukchit Sihiran was appointed from the position of chief to support him.

News reports also mentioned that the fact that Police Colonel Kasem Saengmit received the appointment as new head of the Special Branch is considered satisfactory everywhere, because he has been a long-term career man in the Special Branch. Nevertheless, the many changes in chief-level positions show the signs of being an effort to purge some of the networks, especially that of Police Lieutenant General Ari Karibut, who is still in service.

12532

CSO: 4206/7

EX-SOCIALIST'S DAUGHTER DETAINED ON ARRIVAL FROM LAOS

Bangkok BAN MUANG in Thai 22 Sep 83 pp 1, 2

[Text] The daughter of a former MP who entered the jungle to join the communists has finished her master's degree and returned to Thailand. Immigration authorities have taken her into custody to conduct a background investigation and to look for evidence.

At 4 pm on 21 of this year at the Immigration checkpoint at Tha Sadet, Nongkhai, Mr S. Niphorn Chatmanop, First Grade civil servant stationed in Nongkhai province, waited as the representative of Mr Sakda O-phong, governor of Nongkhai, who had been contacted by Miss Adisarini Phiangket, age 23, for permission to enter and surrender. Miss Adisarini is the daughter of Mr Thongpak Phiangket, former United Socialist Front Party MP from Khonkaen in 1975. Miss Adisarini had contacted the government through Mr Thongpak who is her father and who had once fled political strife during that period but had previously come in and surrendered. Mr Thongpak waited to receive his daughter along with Police Lieutenant Colonel Thira Lotrakun, chief of the Immigration Service, Nongkhai.

[The party waited] until the passenger boat from Tha Deua, Vientiane, brought its passengers, including both Thai and foreigners, to alight at Tha Sadet, with one of the passengers being Miss Adisarini. The moment the boat came alongside the wharf, Mr Thongpak and Mrs Waikao Phiangket, Miss Adisarini's father and mother, and Miss Adisarini herself came together to embrace crying with joy over meeting again after more than five years' separation.

On her return **[to e]**, Miss Adisarini was holding a Lao passport which gave her name as Miss Chitamani, no last name, age 22, of Lao race and citizenship. The Lao Immigration Office had issued it on 2 Sep 1983, numbered 757/83. After that **[Miss Adisarini's arrival]**, the Thai Immigration Service issued papers for her detention, and they must hold her beforehand to wait for proof of citizenship and an investigation of her background.

Mr Thongpak, a former MP from Khonkaen who currently practices law, revealed to reporters that he had taken his wife and children, altogether eight people, along with Mr Khaisaeng Suksai and Mr Klaeo Norapoti, an MP from Khonkaen, to Laos by way of Tha Sadet in order to flee political strife during

that time. After the situation in the country had settled down, he came back to turn himself in along with some members of his family. As for Miss Adisarini, who is his fifth child, she went to continue her education at a Donetsk University in the Ukraine in the Soviet Union. She studied in the Pharmacology Branch for five years until she received her master's degree, and [Then] got in contact to ask permission to return and enter Thailand, traveling from Russia by way of Laos, and come to turn herself in as described.

In addition, Mr Thongpak had brought evidence in the form of an identification card, and a photo taken when Miss Adisarini was a student at the Siam Commercial School in Thonburi. But the immigration authorities refused to release her, because the said evidence is uncertain. Immigration must still detain her beforehand in order that documentation such as a birth certificate or a house registration can be brought to make it clear that this is the same person. The authorities involved have stated that if her relations offered to bail her out first, naturally it could be done, but there would have to be a bond of up to 200,000 baht.

12532

CSO: 4206/7

GENERAL REJECTS STUDENT POLITICAL ROLE

Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai 19 Sep 83 pp 1, 12

[Text] Student disputes the head of the Army Directorate of Operations saying that at the present time university students have a very small political role because they know their place: and if college students and the military exchanged views they would surely understand each other better. Order 66/23 clearly specifies that the military must have contact with all democratic forces. Dr Pricha Piamphongsan fired back at the head of the Army Directorate of Operations saying he had an old-fashioned way of thinking [and] some soldiers had abandoned it long ago. As for Lt Gen Suchinda, he denied having said any such thing, that he merely said that university students were not yet responsible enough and that he is afraid that they would stumble into becoming the tools of others.

On 15 Sep, Lieutenant General Suchinda Khraprayun, head of the Army Directorate of Operations, went to speak on the topic "The Role of Private Schools and the Stability of the Nation" to administrators of private schools at the Golden Dragon Hotel, Nontaburi.

News reports said that at one point Lt Gen Suchinda stated that communists could exist in three forms, namely as armed troops, as a united front, and as a party. He said that the front and the party were extremely difficult to suppress, and that students were an important united front for the communists.

Lt Gen Suchinda stated that in the past students had had too great a political role, which was unacceptable to him, and that he would accept such a role only when students were responsible and self-reliant. Thai students [he stated] were unlike foreign students who can work to support themselves.

In addition, the head of the Army Operations Directorate gave his opinion that the government had erred in dealing with communist affairs in two ways, namely [by] allowing students to come in and meddle in politics, and [by] stipulating that employees of state enterprises were under the labor laws and could set up labor unions to bargain with the government.

On the student side, Mr Woraphot Osaphaphirat, chairman of the Thammasat University Organization (TUO) commented that basically students have innocent intentions of helping. A society which has not been reformed grants the communists a large role in the [Reform] movement, which Order 66/23 categorizes as a condition for war. "We consider ourselves more the public's front to fight to correct social ills. This is reducing the conditions for a communist war," Chairman Woraphot said. Speaking of the political role of present-day students, in comparison with bygone days after the 14th of October [1973--the overthrow of Field Marshal Thanom Kittikachon], [He stated that] students had a much smaller political role, and they were fully aware of the degree of appropriateness of their roles in various matters.

Mr Woraphot said that if something were a matter of public distress and if political means must be used to correct it, students must come in and have a role. But if the government could correct it, they would stay out of the affair.

Dr Pricha Piamphongsan, professor of the Faculty of Economics at Chulalongkorn University, stated that he himself believed the exact opposite of Lieutenant General Suchinda Khraprayun, because students had an extremely small political role, to the point that they almost did not have one at all, and their political consciousness was still underdeveloped as well. [He commented that] at this time, important movements simply did not take place--even activities within the university walls still did not have anything to do with politics.

"Why did he have to compare them with foreign students? Even though ours may not be supported by their families, the government supports them anyway," said Dr Pricha, adding that students in other countries were not taking part in political movements the way they had during the period of the Vietnam War. Most movements had sprung from middleclass pressure groups and progressive political parties.

Regarding the statement that students act as a united front for the CPT, Dr Pricha said that one must first consider what a communist front was. Currently, there are practically no ideological ties between students and the CPT. Students have a great deal of freedom; they are their own masters, and parties cannot lead them about.

"If the military still thinks in such an old-fashioned way, it is incorrect; it is a medieval way of thinking. Some soldiers have already changed their old line of thought considerably," stated Dr Pricha, and said that at this time the CPT has no clear indicator of how it is going to lead, since it is undergoing a crisis itself. At the same time, Thai students have learned from experience and adapt themselves more neatly.

On Lieutenant General Suchinda Khraprayun's part, he stated to SIAM PAT that the newspapers had made an error in printing. He himself had merely said that our students were not yet sufficiently responsible. While other countries'

students are capable of supporting themselves, our own still asked for money from their parents. Their level of responsibility was not yet high enough that Thailand can follow Western countries' examples.

"Their students' opinions come out in correct ways or are close to the truth. And, as for the allegation that I said that students had too great a political role, I did not say that; I merely gave an example; and I am afraid that their role will become another's tool without their realizing it," stated Lt Gen Suchinda.

The head of the Army Directorate of Operations commented that concerning labor, he felt it was a great error [to place employees of state enterprises under the labor laws], because state enterprises should not be included in the labor laws since employees were like civil servants, and how could civil servants demand wages from the government?

12532

CSO: 4206/7

CABINET: ALL DEALINGS WITH EMBASSIES TO GO THROUGH FOREIGN MINISTRY

Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai 21 Sep 83 pp 1, 12

Text The government emphatically insisted that governmental bodies will deal with embassies through the Foreign Ministry. Past free dealings have created a number of problems and have hindered convenient problem solving when difficulties arose.

During the cabinet meeting last Tuesday, the cabinet ministers approved a proposal by the Foreign Ministry calling for one further investigation of the understanding of the procedural rules for contacts between Thai Governmental bodies and various foreign embassies, with governmental units to strictly adhere to the 3 Mar 1970 cabinet decision as follows:

- 1) Should dealings between foreign embassies or consulates and the various governmental bodies be in the first stages having to do with principles and policies, contacts should go through the Foreign Ministry first. When it comes down to details, then one can get in further, direct contact with the authorities in other governmental bodies.
- 2) In routine business dealings which still cannot be considered official, other governmental bodies can contact foreign embassies and consulates directly, but whenever business is conducted by letter, they are asked to notify the Foreign Ministry each time.
- 3) Direct contacts on whatever subject which have already begun, before this proposal is in effect, may continue. But when these dealings have been completed, if it is an important subject, then the Foreign Ministry ought to be notified as well.
- 4) Contacts concerning military affairs and economic and technical aid agreements should be excepted as special cases, such as: dealings on military affairs with the Ministry of Defense; and dealings about economic and technical aid with the International Affairs Department, for example. Embassies and foreign consulates may establish direct contact with the said governmental units, unless it is an affair which might have an impact on the nation's stability. Then there should be close coordination of work between the Foreign Ministry and that governmental body.

Furthermore, reports from a trustworthy news source revealed to SIAM RAI that the reason why the cabinet had to reiterate that governmental bodies must operate according to a 13-year-old decision is because during dealings on different subjects, when difficulties later arose the government of the other country involved was likely to question the Foreign Ministry in turn. But the Foreign Ministry was not able to respond with any more information, and was also incapable of pointing out an efficient way to correct the problem, since the Ministry was unfamiliar with the history of the situation.

The source also stated that one problem likely to occur from these dealings was that having to do with Thai labor abroad. Therefore, it was necessary to have the cabinet reiterate the prior decision to have a strict adherence to it in the future.

12532

CSO: 4206/7

POLISH HOUSE SPEAKER CALLS ON PREM

BK210448 Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 21 Oct 83 p 3

[Text] Visiting Polish House Speaker Stanislaw Cucwa made a courtesy call on Prime Minister Gen Prem Tinsulanon at the Government House yesterday.

Cucwa was quoted as telling the Thai leader that the situation in Poland had returned to normal and the Polish Government wished to further strengthen its relations with Thailand, with particular emphasis on the fields of science, technology, trade and agriculture.

Cucwa is leading an eight-man delegation on a six-day visit to Thailand as guests of the Thai Parliament.

The Polish parliamentarians, who arrived here on October 16, have met several senior Thai officials of the foreign, agriculture, science, technology and energy ministries as well as officials of the Parliament.

The delegation also met the Board of Trade of Thailand and showed interest in importing about 500,000 tons of tapioca products for animal feeds.

[Word indistinct] President Dr Somphop Susangkorn said Poland, however, wanted Thailand to dispatch a team to demonstrate the use of tapioca products as animal feeds.

The meeting was attended by members of associations trading agricultural commodities. Dr Somphop said the delegation also informed the meeting that Poland wants to buy rice and maize from Thailand.

At the same time, it proposed to export agricultural machinery and tractors to Thailand. Dr Somphop said the team pointed out that it could participate in shipbuilding in Thailand.

"The delegation said it would send teams from agencies concerned to pursue these issues later," he said.

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TWO REGIONAL MEETINGS TO DISCUSS AUSTRALIAN TIES

BK170145 Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 17 Oct 83 pp 1, 2

[Excerpt] ASEAN foreign ministers will assess, during their specially-convened meeting in Jakarta November 6-7. The impact of the joint decision of the five member countries to postpone the dialogue with Australia, earlier set for October 24 in Sydney, as a result of Canberra's new policy on the Kampuchea issue.

The ASEAN economic ministers, beginning their three-day meeting in Bangkok today, are expected to discuss, behind closed doors, the decision to postpone the annual talks between Australia and ASEAN although their stand is not likely to be contained in the joint press statement to be issued at the end of the meeting.

"The ASEAN foreign ministers will assess the overall situation when they meet in Indonesia November 6-7 and decide what next to do in regards to Australia," said a senior ASEAN diplomat who took part in the deliberations of the senior officials' meeting over the weekend in preparation for today's official commencement of talks of the ASEAN economic ministers.

The ministers will also discuss draft of memoranda which were to be submitted to U.S. President Ronald Reagan when he first announced plans to visit Jakarta, Manila and Bangkok. The ASEAN senior officials, despite Reagan's decision to postpone the visit to certain ASEAN countries, went ahead with the task anyway "in case Reagan finally makes his visit to the region when he goes to China early next year," the sources said.

The memoranda by ASEAN to the United States are divided into various specific topics such as market access (including non-tariff barriers against ASEAN exports to the American market), commodities, shipping, etc....

"While the ministers will discuss international economic issues and global recovery, they are expected to concentrate more on bread-and-butter issues that are important and of immediate effect for the ASEAN countries. Most of the attention will be devoted to specific matters rather than general topics," the sources said.

The ASEAN economic ministers, during their three days of talks at the Royal Orchid Hotel, will also discuss intra-ASEAN trade and try to remove existing barriers related to the regional grouping's own economic links.

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MALAYSIA TO BE ASKED TO BUILD NEW BORDER FENCE

BK210142 Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 21 Oct 83 p 6

[Text] Thailand will ask Malaysia to build a fence on the boundary between the two countries in Padang Besar in the southern province of Yala to prevent people, mostly Thais, from crossing freely into Malaysia, an informed source in the Supreme Command said yesterday.

The source said the request will be raised in a meeting of the Thai-Malaysian border committee--the twenty-eighth of its kind--in Bangkok late this month.

The source said the discussions in the upcoming meeting will concentrate on economic development of areas on the Thai-Malaysian border and review cooperation between the two countries at the frontier.

On the border problem in Padang Besar of Sadao District, the source said the issue will have to be raised by the Thai side in the meeting because a fence already erected by Malaysian authorities is deep inside the boundary.

About 7,000 Thais have lived on the Malaysia side of the border because they can freely cross the border, and yet avoid penetrating through the fence, the source said.

The source pointed out that the presence of over 7,000 Thais on Malaysian territory has posed a headache to Thai authorities because "many of them crossed the border into Thai side, committed crime or offences and returned to the Malaysian side."

If the fence is moved from deep inside the borderline to right on the boundary, many problems will be solved since it will be clear on which country a resident is, the source added.

The source said the issue had in fact been discussed once by the then Fourth Army Region commander, Gen Han Linanon, in a meeting with Malaysian border officials who agreed with the construction of a new fence on the boundary.

The request will be raised in the meeting late this month so that it can be implemented as soon as possible since it will be advantageous to the national security, the source indicated.

The source said the area has also become a booming drug trafficking zone and Thai authorities cannot enter it.

The source said the upcoming border committee meeting will also discuss preparations for the third joint air exercise between the two countries. The next air exercise will be codenamed "Air-Tha-Mal III."

Malaysian Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Musa Hitam will lead his delegation to Thailand on 29 October for the meeting on 30 October.

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BRIEFS

ECONOMIC MINISTERS ESTABLISH COMMITTEES--ASEAN economic ministers yesterday finalized details on five committees and the long-proposed Basic Agreement on ASEAN Industrial Joint Venture [AIJV]. The ministers from Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia and the Philippines yesterday discussed progress being made on the Committee on Trade and Tourism, Committee on Finance and Banking, and Committee on Industry, Minerals and Energy. Well-informed sources said the ministers will devote much time to discussing the ASEAN Industrial Joint Venture. But whether an agreement will be signed or not will be decided today. The sources said the five countries have agreed in principle that the AIJV is necessary, but have so far been unable to hammer out a final agreement. Only Malaysia remains reluctant to sign the agreement. The other four ASEAN members have been willing to conclude it since the ASEAN foreign ministers meeting in June in Bangkok. [Text] [BK190204 Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 19 Oct 83 p 6]

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AGRICULTURE

NHA TRANG MARINE RESOURCES UNIVERSITY DESCRIBED

Vientiane PASASON in Lao 3 Sep 83 p 3

[Article: "The Nha Trang Marine Resources University Factory"]

[Text] Near the ocean in Nha Trang there is a mountain called (Phou Phua) Mountain. Here there is a beautiful two-story house. It is the Marine Resources University that leans back to (Phou Nang Thevada) who lets her hair down and sleeps eternally facing the China Sea. (Phou Nang Thevada) has faced nature and helped the sea to be calm, and made it convenient for boats and ships to go fishing for many thousands of years. Now (Phou Phua) Mountain also protects this university so that it feels free to draw up plans and designs for scientific research.

This university is now 13 years old. It has 21 laboratories, its [equipment] is gradually becoming modernized, and it has 5 ships.

Over the past 13 years the Marine Resources University has trained nearly 3,000 technicians in the ranks, including 700 digging technicians, 300 manufacturing technicians, 500 ship mechanics, 1,000 technicians for working out of the ocean, and 160 teaching cadres. These are forces to carry out the scientific research plan which has 200 topics; 2 are at the state level, 10 are at the section level, 25 topics are administrative-level, and 200 topics are for scientific research for production and for teaching curriculum improvement.

This marine resources university not only conducts research concerning the use of resources and manufacturing, but also has a long-term project on marine resources. The research achievements of this university are a foundation for scientific and technical research and for economic and resources expansion in the ocean.

Vietnam has rich resources and over 1,000 hectares covered by water. If they know how to [exploit it] there will be a lot of food, raw materials for industry, and goods for export, and to serve the people.

When we went to Dac Lac Province, Mr Le Duan, secretary general of the VCP Central Committee, said that Dac Lac must raise fish and produce food on its own. Nguyen Trong Nho, a technician, fervently remembers the secretary

general's words and takes them as a serious duty for those who work in water resources. He was assigned by the university to do research on the water situation in different areas, in order to expand fishing in Dac Lac.

Trong Ngo conducted the research on the water situation in marshes and streams, and material and chemical conditions in each of them in Dac Lac.

Not long after Trong Ngo brought in fish to raise, and designed a technical plan to expand all breeds of fish. By cooperating with the people the technicians effected a speedy outcome, and things that had not happened for 10,000 years before, have now happened, i.e., fish, that is white scale fish and black scale fish from the mountain were let down into the sea.

By relating [this] to the standard of living of the people and working creatively, the young technicians of the Marine Resources University are steadily putting more of their creativity into this marine research.

From Nha Trang ships pull up anchor and sail when the moon rises, and come back to the port punctually when the sun rises, actively, steadily and forever expanding. The result is that the Marine Resources University makes an important contribution to the socioeconomic construction of the SRV as it progresses to become steadily stronger.

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AGRICULTURE

COLLECTIVIZATION IN LONG AN PROVINCE DESCRIBED

Vientiane PASASON in Lao 2 Sep 83 p 3

[Article by Vilaivan: "Agricultural Transformation in Long An Province in the SRV"]

[Text] In the evolution of agricultural transformation, Long An has carried out two tasks at the same time: ricefield controls [where] farmers are led to production by collective means, with firm cooperation with labor rationing and the people throughout the province and in each district. Agricultural transformation is carried out at the same time as the rationing of seedlings and harvesting in production areas. In Long An there are three agricultural areas. Because previously the labor rationing was not equal among the three areas, the Long An Provincial Party Committee learned that if the ricefield control is limited in any canton or district, it will not create a balance between labor and the land. The southern districts Can Duoc, Can Giuoc (Teuy An) Canton and Vam Co District have a total of 746,000 people which is over 80 percent of the population; however, there are only 165,000 hectares of paddy land. On the average there are not even 1.2 hectares per person. In these districts there is little land but a lot of people. If [the province] controls all the ricefields left over from the rich and middle-income farmers there still will be a fair number of farmers who do not have any ricefields. At the same time the three northern districts, which are in the Thap Muoi Forest--Moc Hoa, Tan Thanh, and Vinh Hung--have 270,000 hectares of agricultural land, 60 percent more than the cultivable land throughout the province. There are 180,000 people and 1.5 hectares per person on the average. There is still a lot of uncleared land and insufficient production labor. The third area is fruit, vegetables and trees. There is collective industry in Duc Hoa, Duc Ve, Ben Thu, Binh Luc and Thu Theu. This area has a lot of ricefields but insufficient labor. Because of this special characteristic the land controls and centralized agriculture in Long An cannot fail to be linked with labor allocation and the people throughout the province.

With the close guidance of the province, the southern districts actively inspected and definitely [found out] the number of middle income farmers, and mobilized those who had a lot of land to share it with those who did not have any. They led them to collective production and stopped high-interest rentals. They put capital into agricultural cooperativization. For those

who had no land this was an increase in intensive agriculture; it widely opened up occupational branches and created more jobs. Another thing was the mobilization of these people to participate in production in the northern districts.

As a result of these techniques 100 families in Vinh Hung District who had a lot of land gave 7,600 hectares to the district, two-thirds of the land throughout the district. The district gave this land to collective co-op units and agricultural settlement management.

At the end of 1982 throughout Long An Province [they] wiped out and transformed the land that was still left to be taken care of, which belonged to 20,000 people, and divided up 20,000 hectares among the people who did not have any land. Therefore, in Long An the landlords were completely wiped out. All forms of feudal exploitation plus the rich farmers were also eradicated. Meanwhile, Long An set up 4 co-ops and 449 collective production units consisting of 11.5 percent of the farmers, 12 percent of agricultural production, and 11 percent of the cultivation area. In many places collective production organizations were started systematically. The rice-growing and vegetable-growing capacity is higher, and the standard of living of the people has been transformed. One thing should be paid attention to: when agricultural transformation was being carried out Long An studied and improved the [seedling base] and set up industrial tree-growing areas, especially for flax, sugarcane, coconuts and peanuts in Duc Hoa, Duc Ve, and Ben Thu. Each year they grow 6,000 hectares of sugarcane, 9,000 hectares of peanuts, 5,500 hectares of coconuts and 5,000 hectares of flax plants in Thap Meuy Forest. Now Long An is experimenting with cooperation between the government and collective co-ops and the private sector in new cultivation and exploitation, including manufacturing and expenses.

In order to complete the agricultural transformation in the coming years Long An also has many tasks to perform. In 1983 this province decided to bring 100 percent of the farmers into collective production, improve working techniques to ensure the collective production units, and reinforce the activity in working and the new lifestyle. The collective production units in the newly opened up areas received even more attention. The government responded to the draft labor and set up extensive irrigation. Workmen who went to the newly opened up land were assisted in house construction; they received some land for gardening and for construction of a secondary economy using techniques expressly suited to the special local characteristics. Long An Province scored achievements in both tasks at the same time. It led farmers into collective production, and rationed labor throughout the province.

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